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'I must look sombre. I don't want to be photographed grinning'

New team in last-ditch bid to save merger

By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

The Liberal and SDP leaders last night attempted to rescue the proposed merger of their parties from collapse when in an humiliating climbdown they abandoned the policy prospectus.

The two men were forced unceremoniously to dump the document 28 hours after its release and hurriedly patch together a formula to try to salvage the enterprise and their respective parties from years in the political wilderness.

A new six-member team comprising three men from each party has been created to begin work immediately on drafting a fresh policy statement to put before the full negotiating team on Monday.

Its task is to produce a document, drawing on the Liberal Party manifesto at the last general election and other policy papers produced by both parties during the past few years, with the aim of getting the merger process back on course for a spring launch of the new party.

As the new team works on the policy declaration, Liberal opponents are planning to capitalize on the anger and disillusionment in the party caused by the debacle, to launch a "vote no" campaign at the weekend.

Even if a new policy prospectus can be drafted and accepted by both parties, there are few within the Liberal Party who believe that Mr David Steel will lead the new party.

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His parliamentary colleagues believe that the furious controversy over the policy prospectus has made his position little short of untenable and that his remaining task is to see the new party launched.

As Liberal MPs arrived at a meeting of the Parliamentary Liberal Party in the House of Commons last night one said: "The majority of us think that David cannot lead the new party. He has made a major error of judgement."

Mr Steel and Mr Robert Maclennan agreed to drop the prospectus they had drawn up after a revolt by Liberal MPs and an angry reaction from grassroots SDP members that the carefully nurtured merger was in jeopardy.

Urgent talks took place at Westminster between Liberals and Social Democrats early yesterday aimed at buying time to save the whole venture.

The Liberals put pressure on the SDP leader to change his policy and were pointing out that if the merger failed they were in a much stronger political position than the pro-merger SDP members.

One member of the party commenting on the "worst 24 hours imaginable", said: "Standing watching the waves breaking on the rocks is not very pleasant when you are told 'we are about to jump down there'."

By the time the two leaders met in Mr Steel's office for 40 minutes at lunchtime a formula had been agreed based on using the Alliance manifesto, *Britain United*, as a way out of the impasse.

In a joint statement both men said: "We accept that some of the thought-provoking ideas we raised in our joint paper are not suitable for the initial policy stance of the new party, but are happy to accept the suggestion of colleagues that they will, more appropriately, be put into the democratic policy making process of the new party, together with the ideas of others".

Neither of the two leaders will be involved in drawing up the new document which will be much shorter than the 5,000-word original policy prospectus. It will be thematic rather than detailed.

The Liberal negotiators will be led by Mr Des Wilson, the former party president, who described the original document as "barely literate".

It will include the party's chief whip, Mr Jim Wallace, and Mr Alan Leaman, vice-chairman of the party's policy committee.

The Social Democrat team will be headed by Mr Edmund Dell, the former Labour Cabinet Minister and now a trustee of the SDP.

The group will include Mr David Marquand, a member of the party's national committee and Mr Tom McNally, a former MP and member of the negotiating committee.

Mr Alex Carlile, the Liberal MP, said that Mr Maclennan had changed his previous inflexible position after an "avalanche of representation".

Miss Rachael Pitchford, a Liberal negotiator who resigned in protest at the name chosen for the new party, said last night: "There will be much more opposition to merger as a result of this row. That prospectus will be hung around our heads for many years."



A jubilant Dr Owen gives a thumbs-up salute after speaking yesterday at Edinburgh University (Photograph: Tom Kidd)



Meanwhile, the other parties at Westminster were incredulous at the ineptitude shown by both party leaders. Dr David Owen blamed the merger team for getting the SDP and Liberals into this "ghastly mess".

He had no idea where the policies in the prospectus had come from and he said he would be delighted if pro-merger SDP members returned to his fold.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said the prospectus had been non-socialist and nonsensical and comprised little more than a string of collective prejudices.

Come and join us, says Owen

By Kerry Gill

Dr David Owen yesterday called on SDP MPs and members who had supported the proposed merger with the Liberal Party to rejoin him.

Leaving a meeting in Edinburgh he turned to aides and said: "I must look sombre. I don't want to be photographed grinning." Later he insisted that he was not in the business of saying 'I told you so', but he had consistently said it was wrong to merge.

Barely able to disguise his jubilation over the collapse of the merger, he said there was still a home for those members who had promoted the new Alliance.

Dr Owen particularly mentioned pro-merger MPs Mr Robert Maclennan and Mr Charles Kennedy. "I very much hope that they will stay. I long for Charles and Bob to continue as SDP MPs. These are good friends of mine.".

It was time for the SDP to regain its self confidence and pride and, once again, become the third force in British politics. Since the launch of the Campaign for Social Democracy, which fervently opposed the merger, 16,000 had registered their support.

Dr Owen said: "We have shot ourselves in both feet more than once", referring to the damage the continuing wrangling will have caused.

Thatcher rejects plea on MP's secrets Bill

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night rejected a final appeal to withdraw her opposition to a Conservative MP's attempt to reform the Official Secrets Act.

Mrs Thatcher, during a half-hour meeting with Mr Richard Shepherd, MP for Aldridge-Brownhills and sponsor of the Protection of the Official Information Bill, refused to lift the three-line-whip imposed to ensure its defeat.

She also refused to discuss key issues dealt with in the Bill which receives its second reading today.

After the meeting, Mr Shepherd said: "I am concerned that MPs with consciences should not be made to look like monkeys. The Government had many ways of defeating this Bill without calling into question the loyalty of individual MPs. I am deeply disappointed."

The Government now faces one of its biggest backbench rebellions with the possibility that its 101 majority could be cut in spite of the absence of many opposition MPs. It is confident of winning the day, and seems certain to do so, but the cost to relations with its backbenchers could be heavy.

General support exists for the Government's position that it should handle official secrets legislation, but there was continuing fury at what were seen as strong-arm tactics to defeat a Bill that could have been used as a focus for debate, and at the unprecedented move of of issuing a three-line whip against a Conservative MP who won a high place in the ballot for private Member's legislation.

The protests about the whipping arrangements continued last night at the weekly meeting of the Tory backbench 1922 committee.

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Mr Nicholas Budgen, Mr Hugh Dykes and Mr Jonathan Aitken were among those who argued that the tactics were contemptuous of the rights of backbenchers, but there was equally strong support for the Government's stance from several MPs, including Mr Joh Wheeler, Mr Ivan Lawrence and, speaking in a personal capacity, Mr Cranley Onslow, chairman of the committee.

Some 20 Conservative MPs could defy the whip and vote for Mr Shepherd today while more than 50 could abstain.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party has asked as many MPs as possible to attend to support the Bill, which, he said, had become a political virility test with the integrity of Conservative backbenchers at stake.

Earlier, in the Commons, Mr Kinnock had accused Mrs Thatcher of being forced to use the whip because her case was so weak. She had a shallow, spiteful and spurious attitude.

The Prime Minister said that the Government was already considering a white paper with a view to legislation, and that it was vital that the matter be dealt with by a government measure.

It was an argument that she repeated to Mr Shepherd in a meeting granted only after pressure from officers of the Tory home affairs committee, but, when he emerged from Mrs Thatcher's room at the Commons, Mr Shepherd said that her answer to a request to remove the whip had been "No".

She had declined to expand on her attitude to two important issues in the Bill, that ministers should not be allowed to be judge and jury in their own cause over what information should be protected, and that of whether Civil Servants should be able to claim the defence of acting in the public interest if they

Continued on page 18, col 7

Action urged on killer diseases

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

Big changes in England's public health system to help prevent the spread of potentially fatal infectious diseases, such as meningitis and Aids, is likely to be introduced by the Government.

A report by a committee of experts, chaired by the Government's Chief Medical Officer, Sir Donald Acheson, calls for the appointment of directors of public health and control-of-infection officers to every health district.

The report was delivered yesterday to Mr John Moore, the Secretary of State for Social Services and recommends the appointment of an extra 224 specialists in public health throughout England in the next 10 years.

It says that priority given to controlling communicable diseases and infections has declined in recent years to a "dangerously low level".

It urges health authorities to give more attention to the prevention of illness and premature death, and calls for the close monitoring of local populations so that outbreaks of diseases can be dealt with more effectively.

Professor Alasdair Geddes, of Birmingham University, one of the authors of the report, said: "As a country, we have failed in recent years to respond promptly to infectious diseases. We clearly need a new, properly co-ordinated approach."

The report is by a committee of inquiry set up after the salmonella food poisoning outbreak at the Stanley Royd Hospital in Wakefield, West Yorkshire, in August 1984, and the outbreak of legionnaires' disease in Staffordshire in April, 1985.

Public inquiries into both outbreaks exposed inefficiencies and a lack of co-ordination among health officials.

"Meningitis is a continuing cause for concern. Measles and whooping cough remain imperfectly controlled in spite of the availability of effective vaccines", the report says.

"New infections such as legionnaires' disease, and particularly Aids and its underlying virus, HIV, demand attention."

Mr Moore referred to the report in the Commons yesterday. "We shall be studying the recommendations in detail as a matter of urgency and hope to make a further statement on implementation soon", he said.

Public Health In England (Stationery office: £8.00).

● Means of persuading parents to have their children immunized against preventable fatal diseases will be discussed at a conference of medical experts at Manchester University today.

TOMORROW



KENNETH FLEET

One of the most experienced commentators in journalism begins a weekly Saturday column in The Times tomorrow. Kenneth Fleet brings his acute judgement to bear in an incisive commentary on the major business and City issues of the week. At a time of business expansion and volatile markets, Kenneth Fleet's analysis will underline the influential role of The Times in the City

IN PART 2

Scots Law Report

Today *The Times* launches a new service by extending the Law Report to include leading Scottish cases. These reports, prepared by a team of members of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, will appear as such cases emerge from the Court of Session and, in its appellate capacity, from the High Court of Justiciary ..... Page 30

TIMES FOCUS

A campaign is underway aimed at saving millions of pounds by conserving energy in industry and the home. A special Report examines the prospects ..... Pages 26, 27

Portfolio

- There is £8,000 to win in today's Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner yesterday.
- Portfolio list, page 23.

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Jobless fall slowing as pay rises gather pace

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Unemployment fell by more than half a million last year, the biggest drop on record. But there are tentative signs that the fall is slowing, while pay increases are accelerating.

The jobless total, adjusted for seasonal factors, dropped by 35,400 to 2,614,000 last month, completing a 1987 fall of 505,400, easily the biggest on record.

Last month's drop was well below the November fall of 62,900. There were also fewer vacancies, down by 11,600, the biggest decline in available jobs for more than seven years.

Unemployment is expected to continue to drop in the coming months, but at a slower rate than last year.

The Department of Employment figures showed an acceleration in average earnings growth from 8 per cent in October to 8.25 per cent in November. Earnings are rising at well above the 4.1 per cent inflation rate in the 12 months to November.

Details, page 19

Blood transfusion dispute

200 staff start all-out strike

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

Two hundred blood transfusion staff started an indefinite strike last night in Sheffield as talks continued between the Government and the unions over cuts in meal allowances.

The staff, all members of the health service union Cohse, include donor attendants, nurses and drivers. They walked out at 5pm, refusing to do any overtime work or report for work this morning.

The union said that blood supplies would be monitored and emergency cover provided but the action is likely to cause chaos today.

The first all out strike by blood transfusion workers followed pledges by workers at all 16 blood transfusion centres throughout the country that they would take industrial action next Monday if the talks at the Department of Health failed to provide guarantees that meal allowances would be protected.

Most other branches have decided to ban overtime and work to rule although Cohse officers predicted that many could follow Sheffield's lead.

Under the present employment law all branches have to ballot their members over strike action. Cohse officials have advised Sheffield to formally ballot its members at a special meeting which will be held at 9am this morning.

Matthew Collier, aged four, was in a critical condition last night 24 hours after a 10-hour operation at Birmingham Children's Hospital to repair a hole in his heart (Craig Seton writes). Meanwhile the parents of Matthew Mulhall, aged eight months, one of 88 children waiting for cardiac surgery at the hospital, ruled out taking up offers for their son to be operated on privately.

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Thatcher defiant 18

The dispute centres on an agreement concerning meal allowances for all 900,000 health service staff. Some blood transfusion staff could lose £1,000 a year.

Mr Pat McGinley, Cohse national officer said: "This is a significant escalation of the dispute, which none of us want, but which we warned would happen if the pay of these vital but low paid workers was not protected".

Cohse branch representatives will meet at its West Bromwich offices tomorrow to consider further action.

Meanwhile blood transfusion workers in parts of London, Newcastle upon Tyne, Dundee, Aberdeen, Inverness and the West Midlands voted to join colleagues in Leeds, Glasgow and Edinburgh and work to rule.

How the tough guys can survive heart attacks

From Charles Bremner
New York

Aggressive, hard-driving achievers may be in less danger of early death from heart failure than their placid, unassertive brethren, according to a medical study which challenges long-held notions about personality and heart disease.

Doctors at Berkeley, in California, say that they arrived at their startling findings after examining the survival of middle-aged male heart-attack victims over a 12-year period.

Since the mid-1960s, medical authorities have recognized that the impatient, inwardly hostile, workaholic man – classified as Type A – is up to four times as likely to suffer heart disease than the easy-going unambitious Type B.

The Berkeley researchers, whose findings were published in the journal of the New England School of Medicine this week, found that an equal number of Type A and Type B did not survive a first heart attack. But of those who did, only 2.5 per cent of Type As died in the first year compared with 8.5 per cent of Type Bs. In the longer term, the Type As' risk of dying of heart disease was only 60 per cent of the risk for the Type B subjects, Dr David Ragland and Dr Richard Brand found.

The Berkeley findings were immediately challenged by Dr Meyer Friedman, one of the cardiologists who conducted personality research in the early 1960s. He said those Type Bs who suffered disease were in fact misclassified Type As. "Here at the hospital I offer a bottle of expensive wine to any doctor who can bring me a Type B patient who's had a coronary, and so far no one has."

Other experts said this was not so. Dr Ragland and Dr Brand suggest that compulsive Type As might seek treatment sooner than Bs, or they could be more disciplined about following health regimes after an attack.

Dr Robert Eliot, of Denver's Swedish Medical Centre, said Type Bs may be "unassertive and afraid to speak out – pressure cookers with no safety valve". A New York specialist, Dr Stephen Scheidt, noted that "the diagnosis of Type A has undergone major changes" since the ground-breaking studies of earlier decades. Depression or chronic hostility may be more of a factor than compulsiveness in heart disease, he said.

In an editorial published with the new findings, Dr Joel Dimsdale of San Diego said the Berkeley study, which focuses on the cases of 257 men, "casts a long shadow indeed on the evidence supporting Type A as a risk factor".

But Dr Dimsdale insisted there was a relationship between personality and heart disease – a view that has come under question in other recent studies. Some studies have singled out hostility and anger in Type A subjects while others have suggested that the crucial factor for heart attacks is to be found in the way the cardiovascular system reacts to stress.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Friendly stamps and shares shop

Post offices should provide facilities for share transactions, with a "bank manager" on hand to advise, and an over-the-counter mail order service, with catalogues for customers' orders, it has been suggested.

Counter clerks and other people working in Britain's 20,000 main and sub-post offices have sent those proposals to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission with the aim of opening up and improving services

The monopolies commission, which keeps an eye on all nationalized industries, is looking at Post Office counter services, which could be sold off by the Government.

Other suggestions were that licensing of new vehicles, now done by car dealers, should be undertaken by the Post Office and that customers should be able to buy such items as stamps and licences with credit cards.

2,500 opt for college

More than 2,500 people have enrolled for courses offered by the Open College, the Government-sponsored distance learning enterprise launched by Lord Young of Graffham in September.

However, some students have already been offered refunds for courses which have been delayed. The college was set up in less than 10 months, and production difficulties have, in some sections, been severe.

The college has been criticized both for the high cost of some of its courses and for the haste with which it was set up.

Piggott is injured

Lester Piggott, the former champion jockey, is under special guard in jail after being knocked senseless by a fellow prisoner while playing badminton.

Piggott, sentenced to three years for a £3 million tax fraud, was hit with a racket by his doubles partner at Highpoint Prison, Suffolk, and needed three stitches in a head wound.

The Home Office said yesterday that statements were taken from Piggott and other prisoners using the gymnasium. "We understand it was an accident, not an intentional assault."

Opren acceptances

Four out of five of the 1,300 alleged victims of the anti-arthritis drug, Opren, have accepted a share in the settlement offered by Eli Lilly, the manufacturers, company lawyers told the High Court in London yesterday.

Mr Justice Hirst welcomed the announcement which would mean that the 1,050 who had accepted the offer would immediately receive a "substantial" part of their award, estimated at £2,000 each on average.

With just 47 declining the offer, the judge urged the remaining 200 to make up their minds during the next three weeks.

VAT may hit water

Value-added tax could become payable on drinking water consumed at shops and factories if the European Court accepts a submission by Mr Marco Darmon, the Advocate General of the European Communities.

The Advocate General is specifying that VAT should be charged on water supplied to firms which themselves are producing something on which VAT is charged.

The European Court is expected to make a judgement on water VAT in the spring

Chess title for Short

Nigel Short, the British champion, yesterday made certain of at least sharing first prize in the Foreign and Colonial Hastings Grandmaster Chess Tournament when he agreed to adjourn his match against John Nunn after 13 moves

The decision left Jonathan Speelman needing to beat Murray Chandler with the black pieces to share first prize.

In the other two games, Bent Larsen was playing Joel Benjamin, and Lev Psakhis Nigel Davies.

Pilot deaths increase

Safety chiefs have launched a big campaign to improve standards among private pilots and reverse the growing number of fatal accidents. A record total of more than 50 people died in 27 accidents last year. Experts from the Civil Aviation Authority's safety unit are touring flying clubs and airfields to emphasize that pilots must not take risks with their aircraft or with the weather and should monitor their own performance.

A task force at the authority is investigating the causes of every crash to see if a particular pattern emerges to explain why the number of fatal accidents has increased.

Rape case highlights fears over parole

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

Pressure mounted for changes to the parole system yesterday when a "vile" sexual offender was jailed for eight years.

The man abused his 14-year-old stepdaughter only months after being given early parole, the Central Criminal Court was told.

The case is the second in two days in which an offender has committed a serious crime after his release from prison.

The stepfather had been sentenced to three years in August, 1984, for sexual offences against the girl but was released on early parole after only 11 months.

He was put back in prison when he broke the conditions of his parole by returning to the girl's home in Kentish Town, north London. In May, 1986, he was again set free and four months later began the series of sexual attacks. He denied four rapes and four indecent assaults.

The court heard he raped her as a "substitute" for his former common-law wife. Judge Lewisohn said: "Your conduct was totally vile. You made her life an absolute misery."

The case is likely to bring further attacks on the Government's policy of early release for short-term prisoners: last summer some 3,500 prisoners were released to reduce prison overcrowding.

On Wednesday Judge Hazan, QC, jailed a rapist for life and strongly attacked the Parole Board for his early release from prison.

A full-scale review of the parole system is being chaired by Lord Carlisle, the former education minister.

The review, which could even lead to the abolition of the present system, was announced by the Home Secretary last year as part of a package of prison measures. It is expected to report in the summer.

The early release of 3,500 offenders last year was greeted with a chorus of criticism from Conservative backbenchers, who said 630 of the criminals had committed violent or sexual offences.

The Home Secretary was urged to ensure this was a "one-off crisis measure" which would not be repeated.

Latest figures show that during 1986 5.4 per cent of all those given parole were recalled during their parole period. Of the 796 recalled, 537 had been convicted of a further offence.

The Home Office yesterday would only say that that Judge Hazan's comments, to be sent to the Home Secretary, would be carefully considered by the parole review committee.

The view of the Parole Board unofficially was understood to be that Judge Hazan was wrong. It had not been one of the more serious category of cases referred to the Parole Board for a decision, but dealt with by the local review committee.

Second, the board maintained that the man's period of licence had expired by the time he committed his offence, although there had been other previous "lapses of parole".

The National Council for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders said yesterday the overall the parole system reduced re-offending. Cases of criminals re-offending while on parole were relatively rare.

Mr Paul Cavadino, from the council, said changes were needed to the system. In particular, the council wanted the local review committees to be replaced by five regional parole committees to eliminate inconsistencies.

● The Police Federation yesterday severely criticized the Parole Board for "taking calculated risks" in the early parole of violent and sexual offenders.

Reiterating the comments of Judge Hazan the federation said: "We share the judge's concern about glaring errors of this kind in paroling people who have been convicted of horrific crimes of violence, and who when freed go out and attack other people".

Mrs Frances Crook, director of the Howard League, for penal reform group, said: "It would be worse if sexual offenders served their full term and then were released into the community, having had practically no treatment

ITV to accept payment scheme

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

Independent television chiefs have capitulated in their dispute with programme makers over production fees and exploitation rights, after intervention by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, it was disclosed last night.

The ITV companies have agreed, reluctantly, to follow the example of the BBC and accept a centrally agreed framework of payments, drawn up by the IBA, which will apply to all 16 stations.

Until now the ITV Association, which represents the companies, has refused to entertain the idea of such a deal and has insisted that individual companies should be free to negotiate their own deals with independent programme makers.

However, with the BBC having already accepted such an agreement, and the Government determined that the independent sector should make 25 per cent of programmes for Britain's four channels, the pressure became too much. The change of tactics was decided at a meeting of the managing directors of ITV companies earlier this week.

Mr John Whitney, director general of the IBA, announced the developments yesterday and said he hoped it would break the month-long deadlock in negotiations between the two sides.

The ITV companies had agreed to the IBA proposal that the authority should determine a financial framework for the key issues of production fees and exploitation rights. "I very much hope that the independents will also be able to accept this proposal by the IBA", he said.

Last night, Miss Sophie Balhetchet, chairman of the Independent Programme Producers' Association, said: "The IBA intervention is constructive and necessary. It is a postive move."

Privately, independent producers are guarded and wary about the IBA initiative and what it will produce, mainly because of their mistrust of the ITV companies.

● TV-am management and the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) agreed to hold a father meeting next week after two hours of "cordial talks" yesterday over the dispute that has seen more than 200 technicians locked out since before Christmas.

Union officials want the company to consider proposals that it has put to it for industrial reforms.

However, TV-am has given no indication that it will back down from its 10-point plan aimed at ending what it sees as expensive restrictive practices. Since the dispute began, the company has used secretarial and other staff to run its live early morning show.

Ridley fights to control £5bn benefit for homes

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is fighting an attempt by the Department of the Environment to take control of the £5 billion housing benefit budget as part of its plans to boost the private rented housing sector.

The Government has accepted that funds devoted to housing benefit will soar after deregulation, because more help will be needed for poorest tenants as rents rise to market levels.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr William Waldegrave, minister responsible for housing, are pressing to take over the budget from the Department of Health and Social Security.

They argue that it makes administrative sense for the department which runs housing policy to have control of the payment of housing benefit.

The Treasury, alarmed at estimates of increased spending on housing benefit (it could be an extra £2 billion), is however fighting a rearguard action in a Cabinet dispute which will have to be resolved shortly by the Prime Minister.

Mr Lawson fears that giving the budget to the department which controls housing policy will weaken the checks the Treasury is able to impose against pressure to increase spending on housing benefit.

Mr Ridley and Mr Waldegrave have the backing of Conservative MPs for their efforts.

Mr John Heddle, chairman of the Conservative backbench environment committee, said yesterday: "Housing benefit should go to the tenant and not to the property".

One reason that there were half a million vacant properties was that housing benefit was directed towards the local authority owning the property rather than the tenant, he said.

The dispute in Whitehall comes as the Government considers new measures to prevent a return of Rachmanism once rent control is relaxed under the housing Bill, now going through Parliament.

Ministers are understood to be considering raising the minimum fines for harassment of tenants, and proposals to make directors of property letting companies personally responsible for their good repair.

They are expected to act on proposals being put forward by Mr Heddle and the Association of District Councils.

Mr Heddle said yesterday that most landlords were honourable and law-abiding, but the shortage of rented accommodation in some areas encouraged exploitation by unscrupulous owners.

He said the powers available to local authorities to compel them to keep their properties in proper repair were a paper tiger.

Mr Heddle said: "The only way round is to make directors of landlord companies personally liable in the same way that directors of other companies are personally liable to comply with company law and other responsibilities."



The Duchess of York (left) making her way by T-bar lift in Klosters, Switzerland, yesterday with a friend. She is on a skiing holiday and returns to London next week. She is due to attend a gala performance of The Phantom of the Opera in New York next Thursday.

Tax staff pay deal rejected

By Roland Rudd

A revolutionary pay deal for Inland Revenue workers was in danger yesterday after union delegates at a special conference in London voted by 75 to 45 to reject it.

Earlier the Inland Revenue Staff Federation's executive had recommended the pay package to delegates representing 55,000 tax officers as the best negotiated offer to deal with low pay and boost morale.

Mr Tony Christopher, general secretary, said the union's officers had had to swallow the Government's policy of performance pay.

But this attempt to slaughter the left's sacred cow that trade unionists should be paid the same rate for the same job proved too much for the delegates.

The deal will be put to members in a secret ballot next week. Despite yesterday's decision the executive has a reasonable chance of a majority vote in favour.

If federation members accept the deal it will end the Civil Service's traditional multi-union pay bargaining.

Since the Government abolished the Civil Service pay system based on comparable outside pay in 1981, the federation's pay deals have consistently been below the inflation rate.

Mr Christopher pointed out that the £30 million pay package would raise the pay of the federation's low paid by 19 per cent (£21 per week) by April 1989.

But in exchange, the Treasury would insist on a form of merit pay.

The union's left wing yesterday made clear that they could not sign the deal. Mrs Linda Morgan, from Watford tax branch, said: "Merit pay is divisive and unacceptable: members do not want this deal even if it means no more money."

If the deal is rejected next week, Mr Christopher said that the union would have to follow the Militant-controlled Civil Public and Services Association and take on the Government.

The Society of Civil and Public Servants, representing a tiny minority of members in the Inland Revenue, attacked the pay system for allowing "the Government to budget resources at the small number they wish to reward at the expense of the majority".

But it failed to present the alternatives, reflecting the split in the union's broad left between favouring an all-out strike and selective strike action.

'Junk food maths' is criticized

Children often find mathematics difficult and boring because of the narrow and unfulfilling way in which it is taught, a study published yesterday by the Department of Education and Science says.

It suggests that much mathematics teaching is like junk food: all the preparation is done by someone else; it is superficially attractive but turns out to lack flavour; all the real nutrient is removed and substitutes have to be added.

The study describes the findings of a three-year project involving 2,000 teachers in six local education authorities in the south of England.

They were encouraged to give up their pre-packaged schemes of booklets and worksheets, and put more emphasis on class discussion and practical work.

The report says the result showed that pupils of all abilities achieve far more when they are presented with a broader based mathematical challenge.

Better Mathematics (Stationery Office; £5.50).

£400m bill estimated on poll tax

By David Walker

Collection of the community tax will cost at least £400 million extra in its first year, the Association of District Councils has estimated. Its first assessment is based on evidence from officials who are to collect the new tax, while previous estimates have been guesswork.

The Conservative-controlled association questioned a sample of 150 councils throughout England and Wales.

Its findings show that councils will have to employ at least 12,200 extra clerks and computer operators if the poll tax is to be introduced on time in April 1990.

The 11,800 officials now collecting rates will have to be increased to 24,000

The £206 million annual cost of collecting the rates will rise to about £420 million.

Councils will also have to buy new computers and software and build offices. Capital costs of the tax transition will be about £202 million.

Education Bill

Churches to fight proposals

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

The Roman Catholic Church has launched a public campaign to change the education Bill which is soon to be debated in Parliament. The Church of England is shortly to embark on a similar effort.

The launch of the Roman Catholic Church's public opposition to the Bill was signalled by an outspoken article by Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, in *The Times* on Wednesday. He said there the Bill proposes an education system "at the heart of which is spiritual emptiness".

This attack on the Government's education policy is likely to be echoed soon by the Church of England. The Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, chairman of the church's board of education, has indicated grounds on which the Bill is inadequate.

The two churches control a quarter of the state education system, through voluntary or assisted schools. A combination of the 26 Anglican bishops and the Catholic peers in the House of Lords could mount formidable opposition, particularly if supported by Labour and Alliance peers.

Cardinal Hume said in *The Times* that the omission of religious education from the Government's proposed core curriculum appeared to be a threat to the continuing Catholic character of Catholic schools.

A special committee has been set up by the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, to coordinate a national campaign against the Bill. It is likely to include appeals to church members to write to MPs.

The Catholic peers, who number 71, of whom 50 sometimes actually attend, expect to be asked to support the bishops' opposition to the Bill when it reaches the Lords.

Cardinal Hume's opposition to the Bill is also based on the argument, likely to be heard forcefully from the Church of England, that its opting out provisions could threaten the denominational character of church schools.

Opt-out no risk to left

The Government's plan to allow primary schools with more than 300 pupils to opt out of local authority control will do little to curb left-wing councils, a Church of England "think tank" said yesterday.

A study by the Rev Dr John Gay, director of the Culham College Institute, finds that 11 per cent of the 19,500 primary schools in England would be eligible. In Haringey and Liverpool, however, the proportion falls to less than 5 per cent.

Polaris warheads to be refurbished

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The nuclear warheads on the Royal Navy's Polaris missile system are to be refurbished at a cost of millions of pounds in the final update of Britain's existing deterrent before Trident comes into service in the mid-1990s.

Four Resolution class ballistic missile submarines are armed with the Chevaline warhead, which was secretly developed under a Labour government in the 1970s for more than £1 billion.

It is the Chevaline system which is to be refurbished. The contract has been put out to competitive tender.

Since the refurbishing will take a number of years, the warhead system will not need any additional overhauls before Trident replaces Polaris.

Before the controversial Chevaline programme, the Polaris missiles were fitted with three 200-kiloton warheads in a multiple re-entry vehicle (MRV) system with a range of 2,500 miles.

The Chevaline system was installed when it was recognized that the Polaris warhead would be vulnerable against the Soviet Union's anti-missile defences around Moscow.

Chevaline is understood to have three MRV warheads, each with a yield of about 60 kilotons. The warheads are hardened against damage by electro-magnetic pulses, caused by nuclear explosions, and fast radiation. The warhead vehicle is also understood to contain chaff and other decoy aides

The Trident D5 missiles will each have a maximum of eight warheads, increasing the total number of warheads from 192 to 512.

The rocket motors of the Polaris missiles have already been updated at a cost of £370 million. The first Trident submarine is expected to be in service by about 1994. As the new submarines are introduced, the Polaris boats will be phased out.

The contract for refurbishing the Chevaline warheads appears in the latest bulletin sent out to defence contractors by the Ministry of Defence.

Flexibility 'will save pit jobs'

By Tim Jones

Claims by Mr Arthur Scargill that flexible working in the mining industry will cost 30,000 jobs and lead to more pit closures were described last night as "complete nonsense" by Sir Robert Haslam, chairman of British Coal.

As the battle for the presidency of the National Union of Mineworkers entered its final week, Sir Robert insisted that flexibility would create more jobs and secure existing employment in the pits.

Sir Robert said: "I must re-emphasize that it is the expensive equipment which needs to work six days a week, not the men. Miners will work no more hours, shifts or days each year than now."

Throughout his presidential campaign, Mr Scargill has consistently repeated that he will never accept what he describes as six-day working

Sir Robert said that initially the corporation wanted flexible working to be introduced only into new mines which, because of development costs, could not pay their way without it.

"If we are to maintain a thriving industry, we must have new mining capacity available to enable us to stay in business", he said.

"Only with flexible working can we meet the very high costs required to develop new mines. So flexible working will help us to increase and preserve jobs, not to destroy them", he said.

Next month, the union will hold a special conference in London to discuss the continuing overtime ban

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Routing deal for renewed City flights

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

British Airways plans to move what is virtually British Caledonian's entire Gatwick operation into the new £200 million north terminal before April 1.

The terminal will be opened by the Queen on March 22 and within days all British Caledonian long haul flights, British Airtours charter flights and many European services will move across.

The Queen opened Gatwick's south terminal 30 years ago in June 1958, since when a huge increase in passengers has brought overcrowding and congestion at peak times.

Flights to Paris from London City airport will start again next week after an agreement on new radar-controlled routing to the south coast.

The decision was made after discussions between the Civil Aviation Authority and the two airlines operating the services.

The route was shut down on December 18 after complaints from Brymon Airways that its aircraft were having to "eyeball" their way through uncontrolled airspace and that they had been involved in three air misses as a result.

The CAA immediately set up a five-man panel to try to work out ways of overcoming the problem, and yesterday Brymon and its rival, Eurocity, said they were happy with the new arrangements.

Last night, however, the Guild of Air Traffic Controllers said that it was unhappy about the proposals and would seek an urgent meeting with Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the CAA chairman.

The plan involves air traffic controllers at Gatwick monitoring aircraft as they cross the flightpath on their way south.

Controlled airspace, in which aircraft fly along set routes under direct control of air traffic controllers, begins at 2,500ft and rises in stages.

Below those heights, aircraft have to avoid uncontrolled light aircraft, helicopters, gliders and parachutists. All the flights from London City also had to keep below controlled airspace before the closure of the Paris routes. Now they will enter it over Kent.

The CAA said yesterday, however, that if there were more than 10 flights a day in future, it would not be possible to guarantee that cover, and they would then have to re-route their aircraft much further to the east.

هكذا من الأصل

Fire chief calls for action to halt rising toll from car blazes

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The number of car fires in Britain has almost doubled in the past 10 years, demanding legislation against flammable interiors, a chief fire officer said yesterday.

In 1986, there were 47,700 car fires, an increase of 2,500 compared with the previous year. Home Office figures for 1986 are expected to show that more than 50 people were killed in car fires. Up to one third of the fires were deliberate arson as part of insurance fraud.

"Car fires are growing about six times faster than the increase in vehicles on the road", Mr George Moore, Lincolnshire's county fire officer, said.

Two thirds of the fires are ignited by petrol or an electrical fault and the car's interior quickly catches alight.

In the third worst motorway crash last November on the M61, 12 people died as cars were engulfed in flames. Three people died in a car fire in December after a multiple vehicle crash on the M25.

Mr Moore said that once petrol vapour from the fuel tank or broken fuel pipes entered the car interior, the seats would feed the fire. "The problem is that people get trapped in crashed cars, particularly on motorways."

He said a disaster would probably be required before fire protection in cars was improved. "Britain legislates by disaster and that is the only way we seem to make progress."

A spokesman for the Department of Transport said research had been concentrated on coach fires because of the difficulty of moving out large numbers of passengers. Provisional agreement had been reached in the EEC to introduce a flammability test for coach seats and this regulation could be introduced by the end of 1988.

Finland is the only European country that requires car interior trim to meet any mandatory flammability standards. However, all Jaguar and Volvo cars are built to conform to an American federal burn-rate standard, and Austin Rover and Ford models will progressively satisfy the American test.

A Jaguar spokesman said yesterday: "The materials in the trim are probably less flammable than the occupants' clothing."

However, a fire test expert said even the federal test was "not very demanding", and could be met with specially produced polyurethane foams, not the combustion-modified foam soon to be required for home furniture.

A spokesman for the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said: "We are obviously concerned about the flammability of material used in the construction of vehicles and are taking part in discussions being held in Brussels with a view to setting EEC requirements".

Mr Moore said vehicle electrical systems should also be carefully examined and a review should be undertaken of the use of plastic fuel pipes, often unsecured by clips, which can crack or become detached in an accident.

● The European Economic Commission said yesterday it would not stand in the way of government plans to ban the use of two types of polyurethane foam in furniture.

Fears expressed by Mr Francis Maude, the Minister for Consumer Affairs, that the EEC could block the imposition of a ban in February next year were dispelled by a statement from the commission in Brussels.

The statement emphasized that Community rules prohibiting measures restricting European imports and trade did not apply to laws on public safety and health.

● Car production in Britain rose to 1.14 million vehicles in 1987, the highest level since 1978. Ford and Vauxhall built more cars in British factories, curbing imports from the Continent, while Austin Rover and Jaguar increased output by more than 10 per cent.

Austin Rover pulls out of European project

Austin Rover has pulled out of a European research programme involving 13 big car manufacturers because it says it must concentrate on developing new cars.

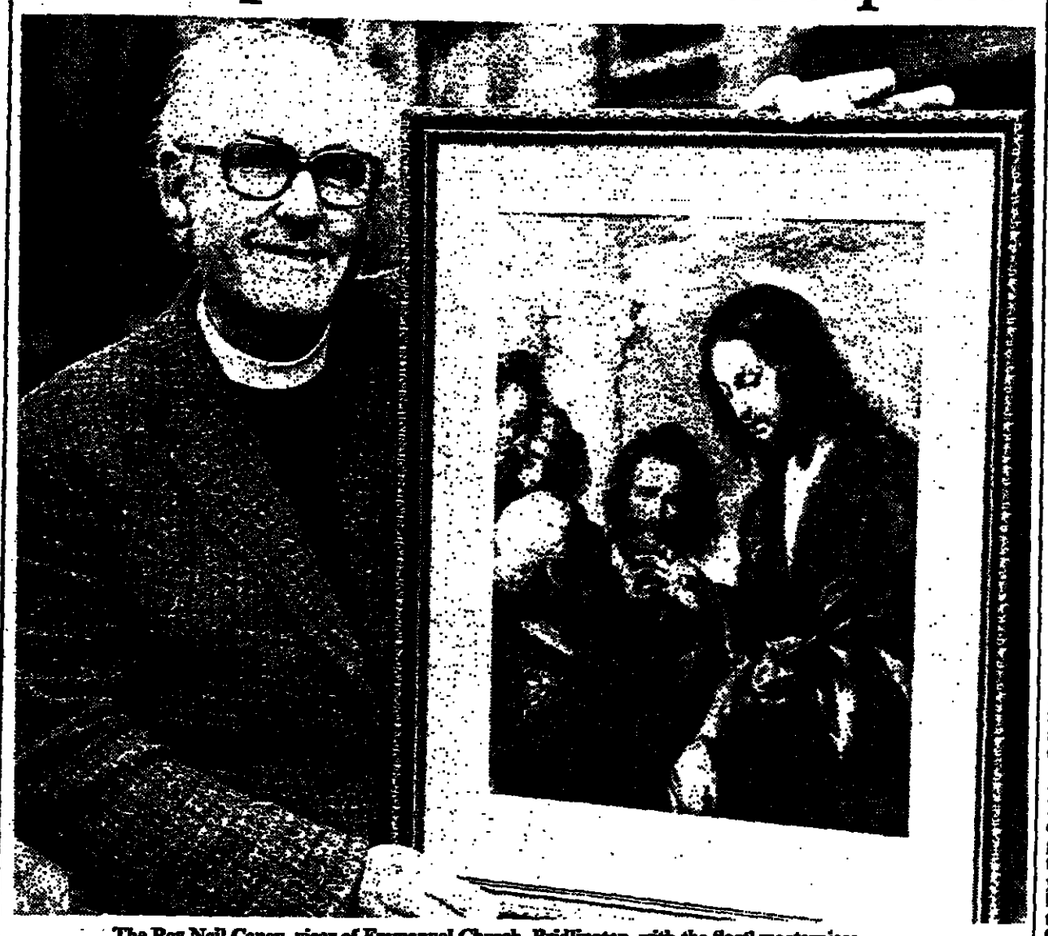
The company denied allegations by Loughborough University researchers who are working on the European Prometheus project that the withdrawal is linked to the need to increase profits before privatization.

It is hoped that the independent Motor Industry Research Association will take over the co-ordinating role. Mr Trevor Aspinall, the association's research division manager, said other component manufacturers would be approached

Austin Rover has stopped its undisclosed funding to the project after 18 months' work, leading the British work which involved Jaguar, Rolls-Royce and a number of component and electronics companies. Austin Rover said that all the research facilities at its Gaydon research and development centre, Warwickshire, would be needed for developing new models.

The £40 million eight-year Programme for European Traffic with Highest Efficiency and Unprecedented Safety is designed to use advanced electronics and automation to make driving safer and easier.

Court pact on lost masterpiece



The Rev Neil Capey, vicar of Emmanuel Church, Bridlington, with the 'lost' masterpiece.

By Ian Smith

A supposedly worthless seventeenth century painting was left to gather dust in a church attic because it frightened the vicar's children, a High Court in Leeds was told yesterday. Only when the elders of Emmanuel Church in Bridlington, Humberside, decided to clear unwanted church property was the real worth of "Christ's Charge to St Peter" revealed.

At a London auction in October 1984 the painting by Bernardo Strozzi sold for £260,000. The family of Mr Charles Wray, who first purchased the painting in the 1920s, brought an action suing the church for ownership of the forgotten masterpiece. However, after a two-hour adjournment yesterday, a settlement was reached.

In a statement to Mr Justice Scott, the Wray family's solicitor, Mr Jules Sher, said each side recognized the other had acted honourably and in good faith and had now reached an amicable and satisfactory settlement. The judge said the compromise was a sensible way of avoiding "metaphoric bloodshed".

Earlier the court was told that Mr James Wray, aged 73, of St James Road, Bridlington, would contend the painting owned by his father was only on loan to the church. Parochial church councillors argue that the religious scene painted in 1630 was given as a gift by the late Mrs Clarrie Wray when her husband died in 1950.

Mr Sher said the 67in by 50in canvas was lent to the late Rev Lumsden Downdes by Mrs Wray after her husband's death. When her husband died Mrs Wray continued the loan

Stockwell stranglings

Shadow seen before deaths

A night attendant at an old people's home armed herself with a stick after seeing the shadow of an alleged mass killer slip past her down a corridor, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Alice McPherson saw the man's shadow on a corridor ceiling as she sat in a darkened room in the middle of the night. Shortly afterwards, two residents at Somerville Hastings House, Stockwell Park Crescent, Stockwell, south London, were found dead.

Mr Valentine Gleim, aged 84, and Mr Zbigniew Stabrawa, aged 94, were strangled in adjacent rooms at the home early on June 28, 1986.

They were two of the seven elderly people said to have been killed by Kenneth Erskine, aged 24. He has pleaded not guilty to the murders and one attempted murder, all committed during the spring and summer of 1986.

Mrs McPherson told the jury yesterday that she had checked on Mr Gleim and Mr Stabrawa at 3am, but then, as she sat in a lounge with the light off, she heard someone using an electric shaver in a bathroom near by. It was apparently the intruder. "The door of the lounge was open and there was some light showing. The person left the bathroom and I saw his shadow on the ceiling."

She waited to ensure the man had gone and went to find her colleague, Miss Dulcie Smith.

As they were checking individual rooms, they saw a man coming from Mr Stabrawa's room and, by the lights from outside, watched him run quickly in a bending position into the room of another resident.

The trial continues today.

Railway murders trial

Ex-wife denies sex claims

The former wife of the man accused of three railway murders denied yesterday that she had sexual relations with her husband and visited him two or three times a week after they separated.

Mrs Margaret Duffy, aged 25, told a jury at the Central Criminal Court that she left their house in north London and returned a few times for mail.

Mr David Farrington, for the defence, said: "This man, who you cannot stand to touch, the man with the scary eyes, the man who has tied you up, put a handkerchief in your mouth, you are going back on a regular basis to visit".

She agreed she left John Duffy the morning after they celebrated their wedding anniversary.

Mr Farrington accused Mrs Duffy of having a boy friend before she left her husband, which she denied.

Mr Farrington suggested that Mrs Duffy only started talking about her husband's "scary eyes" after the press tried to buy her story.

She admitted contacting her husband after she had obtained a court injunction in July 1986 to stop him seeing her. "He was pestering me", she said.

Mr Duffy, aged 30, has denied the murders of Maartze Tamboezer, aged 15, in April 1986; Alison Day, aged 19, in December 1985; and Anne Lock, aged 29, between May and July 1986. He also pleads not guilty to seven rapes, another serious sexual offence and assaults.

A train passenger told the court she travelled with a man who had "a weird, penetrating stare" on the day Miss Tamboezer was murdered in Surrey. The prosecution alleges the man was Mr Duffy.

Mrs Duffy's boy friend, Mr Imre Lovas, speaking with the help of an interpreter, told the court that Mr Duffy came to his flat in Hendon, north London, with his wife at midnight on August 28, 1985.

Mr Duffy punched a friend of Mr Lovas in the head. Then, Mr Lovas said, Mr Duffy produced a flick knife and tried to cut him.

The trial continues.

Ombudsman's report

NHS patients mistreated

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Alarming cases of patient mistreatment resulting from serious hospital under-manning and inefficiency are disclosed in a report by the Health Service Ombudsman published yesterday.

In the worst example, an elderly woman died of broncho-pneumonia four days after being transferred on a freezing winter's day to a new ward that was not ready to receive patients.

No bedding was available and the heating was inadequate. Elderly patients were left sitting out of bed for many hours. There were too few nurses on duty and they failed to alert the authorities to the seriousness of the situation.

Mr Anthony Barrowclough, QC, the ombudsman, does not name the health authority responsible, but the Commons select committee which shadows his work will now summon senior officials from the authorities criticized most severely in the report and ask them to explain their conduct in public.

In another case, Mr Barrowclough upheld a complaint that inadequate supervision had enabled a psychiatric patient to take his own life.

In a third, he criticizes a hospital's "woefully inadequate" ambulance driver rostering system, which resulted in a cancer patient frequently having to wait up to 4½ hours for transport home after chemotherapy.

Another complaint was partially upheld against a hospital that kept a three-year-old girl with a head injury waiting an hour for examination because the only doctor on duty had two emergency cases to deal with first.

Health Service Commissioner: Selected Investigations Completed, April to October 1987 (Stationery Office; £12.30).

● Dr Gillian Cardy, the senior family planning officer who was suspended for three weeks after speaking out against proposed health cuts, is to receive an apology from Bath district health authority.

Soldier's wife jailed by court martial

By Peter Davenport

A soldier's wife became the first civilian to be sentenced by a court martial in Britain yesterday when she was jailed for 18 months for offences against children.

Mrs Mary Kathleen Madden, aged 37, appeared with her husband, acting Lance-Bombardier Michael Madden, before a court martial at Catterick in North Yorkshire. They pleaded guilty to a total of 22 charges, mainly of sexual offences involving young girls. Many were committed in West Germany.

Madden was sentenced to 10 years and ordered to be dismissed from the service with disgrace. The sentences, pending confirmation by the officer commanding the Army's North-east district, will be served in civilian prisons.

Under the Army Act of 1955, wives are subject to military discipline when they accompany their husbands on duty overseas.

Benefit charge

Keith Harrison, Labour Party candidate for Ludlow at the general election, was sent for trial by Telford magistrates yesterday on charges of illegally obtaining benefits from the Department of Health and Social Security. Mr Harrison, aged 44, of Telford, Shropshire, was granted unconditional bail.

Old post

A 300-year-old postbox, which predates the Penny Post and is believed to be the oldest in Britain, has been found beneath layers of cement covering the front wall of the White Hart Inn at Spilsby, Lincolnshire.

Cycles recall

Raleigh, the Nottingham-based bicycle manufacturer, has recalled more than 28,000 cycles after faults were discovered in the axle brackets of its Mustang 15, Maverick 15 and Magnum models.

Assault case

Inspector Frederick Prosser, aged 46, of the Hertfordshire police, was charged with indecently assaulting a woman aged 40, when he appeared at Hertford Magistrates' Court yesterday. He was granted unconditional bail until February 4.

Payroll hunt

Police in Greater Manchester were yesterday hunting a security guard who disappeared with an Armaguard armoured van believed to be carrying £30,000 in payroll cash.

Council plan

A plan to replace county councils in England and Wales with 12 regional councils became the official policy of the Royal Town Planning Institute yesterday.

Book prize

Brian Moore, the Irish-Canadian novelist, yesterday won the *Sunday Express* Book of the Year award, worth £20,000 in prize money, for *The Colour Blood*, his latest thriller.

No trial for Moors killers

By Ian Smith

The brother of Pauline Reade, the Moors murder victim, last night launched an appeal fund to pay for a private prosecution against Ian Brady and Myra Hindley, who are not to stand trial for two murders they have confessed to.

The decision not to prosecute was announced yesterday by Mr Alan Green, Director of Public Prosecutions, who said it would not be in the public interest to institute proceedings against them. Neither is expected to be released from life imprisonment.

Mr Green believes a trial would achieve little while adding to the distress shared by the parents of Pauline Reade and Keith Bennett.

Mr Paul Reade, aged 40, said that from the volume of correspondence he had received it was obvious most people thought the killers should stand trial.

"I will not rest until they stand in the dock and are sentenced to life imprisonment for the appalling killing of my sister", Mr Reade said.

The body of Pauline, aged 16, was uncovered on Saddleworth Moor last July, 24 years after she disappeared on her way to a social club. Police are still searching for Keith Bennett, who was reported missing four days after his twelfth birthday in June, 1964.

Both Hindley and Brady have twice been taken to the moor with police but neither has been able to locate the grave.

Mrs Winifred Johnson, the mother of Keith Bennett, said the couple should stand trial. Her feelings could not be hurt more than they had been.

Girl pupil 'asked for alibi over death'

A teenage girl asked a school friend to lie to the police to give her an alibi for the night her teacher strangled his wife, Liverpool Crown Court was told yesterday.

Angela Page, aged 18, also told her friend she would one day marry Philip Ashcroft, the teacher, and if his wife did not want to have more children by him, she would.

Mr Ashcroft, aged 31, of St Helens, Merseyside, and Miss Page, also of St Helens, deny murdering Mrs Glenys Ashcroft, aged 33, on March 12 last year. Mr Ashcroft admits manslaughter.

Miss Page is alleged to have tied up Mr Ashcroft after his wife's death, to make the killing look like a robbery.

Miss Kateen Lancaster, aged 17, of St Helens, told the court she was a friend and fellow pupil of Miss Page at Sutton High School.

She said she learnt Mrs Ashcroft was dead at an art lesson at school on Friday, March 13. Before that, Miss Page had telephoned her.

"She said to tell whoever asked that I was with her on the Thursday, to say she had been out with us at the band and we went for a walk."

She said she received a second telephone call that evening after learning of Mrs Ashcroft's death. "She reminded me again what to say."

Asked whether Miss Page had given any reason why she wanted her to tell lies, Miss Lancaster said: "She said later she was out with a sailor and didn't want her dad to know".

Mr Michael Prendegast, an unemployed merchant seaman, said Miss Page asked him to give her an alibi for the night of the killing, and paid him £5 for the favour.

He said he met Miss Page at her parents' public house. She seemed depressed and told him Mr Ashcroft had murdered his wife. He agreed to say that he had been with her

In a statement read to the court, Miss Page admitted once having a crush on Mr Ashcroft, but denied having sexual relations with him.

She said she was in hospital for nine weeks in the summer of 1986 suffering from anorexia nervosa. "I told my sister, Elaine, I had made love to him and I still loved him. I only said this to cheer myself up from my depressed state. I had no idea what consequences it might bring."

Dr Alan Russell, a police surgeon, said he examined Miss Page and formed the impression that she had not had frequent sexual intercourse.

The trial continues today.

Filthy café is fined £9,000

Trust House Forte was fined £9,000 plus £500 costs after a court was told yesterday of filth, grease and rubbish in one of its restaurants.

The company faced 33 charges of breaching food hygiene regulations at the Happy Eater café in High Cross, Hertfordshire.

It pleaded guilty to 18 of the charges at Hertford Magistrates' Court and was fined £500 for each. The remaining 15 charges were withdrawn.

The state of the restaurant came to light after a man complained to East Hertfordshire Council that he had been ill after eating chilli con carne.

When Mr Martin Pill, an environmental health officer, visited the restaurant on September 29 he found it in an appalling state, said Mrs Joy Postings, for the prosecution.

Dried-on food was stuck to plates on which meals were to be served; tomato ketchup, a stale chip and a dirty elastic hair-tie were in a tray of coffee sweetener; there was greasy dirt on the floors, half an inch of dark scummy water under the coffee still, and dirt and grease on shelves.

Under the chip-fryer was a pool of oil, containing chips, broken crockery, a tomato, egg shell, paper and plastic.

There were also containers of dirty liquid with thick scum on top. Washing facilities in the kitchen and staff cloakrooms were inadequate.

Mr Richard Rundell, for Trust House Forte, said the Happy Eater chain had been taken over last spring and morale was very low.

The day after the council's visit, the café had been due to close for cleaning.

Guterman gamble pays dividends

Sotheby's gamble of reselling recently assembled art appeared to pay off yesterday, when the Linda and Gerald Guterman Collection sold for $10.3 million (£5.6 million) in New York.

Six Dutch seventeenth-century artists yielded record prices. The two highest were for still lifes, which have been enjoying a recent price boom.

An elaborate table groaning with sweet and savoury subject dishes, by Jan Davidsz de Heem fetched $2.5 million (£1.4 million). Its estimate was $1.8 to $2.4 million.

A table-top in disarray by Jan Jansz den Uyl, its goblet and fruit threatening to fall off their white cloth, was estimated at $700,000 to $900,000. It sold for $2.2 million (£1.2 million).

Other records included that of $907,500 (£493,206) against a top estimate of $600,000 for a river scene by Salomon van Ruysdael, "Nijmegen with the Valkhof and a Ferry Crossing the River Waal".

SALEROOM

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

David Teniers the Younger's interior of an alchemist at work, a stuffed iguana hanging above him, realized $572,000 (£311,000).

Meindert Hobbema's "Entrance to a Wood", which had been estimated at up to $600,000 was bought for $550,000 (£299,000) and "A portrait of a Rabbi" by Govaert Flinck fetched $341,000 (£185,000).

Both Christie's and Sotheby's in New York have had successful sales of Old Master drawings, the first totalling £451,000, with 12 per cent unsold.

An inspired doodle of Adam and Eve by Rembrandt fetched the top price of $79,200 (£44,000; estimate $50,000 to $70,000 at Christie's.

On the whole, prices were healthy, boding well for the season, although tending to remain within estimate.

At Sotheby's the top price was for a sheet of figure studies by a pupil of Raphael, Perino del Vaga, which sold for $374,000 (£201,998), 10 times its estimate, to the London dealers Hazlitt, Gooden & Fox.

Meanwhile, at Sotheby's London, the collection of H W Pratley, a bookseller from Tunbridge Wells, Kent, continued to fetch many prices which left their estimates standing.

A copy of the first New Testament printed in English, translated from the Greek by William Tyndale, doubled its estimate at £5,280, while *The Present State of the French Revenues and Trade*, eighteenth-century observations on the French financial system by John Law, sold for 10 times its estimate, at £3,740.

There were two astounding prices at Sotheby's Chester, first for a breezy painting by Charles E Turner of yachts preparing for the start of the Cowes boat race in the 1930s.

Estimated at between £2,000 and £3,000, the inclusion of many famous boats, such as HMY Victoria and Albert, Astra and Shamrock V, enhanced its appeal, and in the event it sold for £23,100.

The vendor, a Hereford woman who was left the painting in an aunt's will 18 months ago, is reputed to be planning to buy herself a new kitchen on the proceeds.

The painting was bought by Michael Lanigan, a Manchester art dealer.

A painting of two ladies and a baby spending a summer's afternoon in an orchard, attributed to "Circle of George Henry" sold for £13,750 against an estimate of £1,800 to £2,500.

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January 14 1988

PARLIAMENT

Lawson calls for 'management' of exchange rates

There were clear advantages to a more managed approach to exchange rates to prevent the wild gyrations that have recently occured, particularly in the dollar, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, told MPs.

Opening the debate on his autumn statement, Mr Lawson said that it was an academic dream, divorced from reality, to imagine that this could be achieved by international analysis and discussion.

An agreement with the visible, measurable, objective of broad exchange rate stability, in a framework of low inflation was needed.

He was not suggesting a return to a system similar to the rigid exchange-rate system that applied under Bretton Woods, which had carried with it the seeds of its own destruction.

But it was most unlikely that the heady rise of the dollar in 1984 would have happened if an exchange-rate agreement had obliged US authorities to attach greater weight to the value of the dollar in the conduct of policy.

In such a case the imbalances that plagued them and the protectionist threat that went with them could not have developed to such an extent.

The impact of the stock market crash in October on consumer spending should be limited. There was likely to be some slowing down of world economic growth but it would be from a considerably higher level of growth than had been recognized last year.

Activity had picked up markedly during 1987, with a 3 per cent increase in output in the third quarter of the year in the seven major industrialized countries. Industrial production in October was 4 per cent higher.

In the United States in the same period, industrial production had been 5 per cent higher and unemployment at its lowest

THE DOLLAR

level since 1979. Japanese industrial production was 8 per cent higher. Growth in the UK was 4 per cent for the whole year with the third quarter stronger than the first two.

Only the performance of continental Europe, and particularly Germany, was disappointing. World growth had been proving extremely robust but serious imbalances remained.

The heart of these imbalances was the huge US structural budget deficit which was particularly damaging because Americans had been wholly unable to finance it from their own savings.

Progress to cut the deficit had been encouraging but was not sufficient: further steps were needed to reduce it to a tolerable level.

Stability of exchange rates could not be achieved simply by wishing it; appropriate domestic policies, fiscal and in particular monetary, were required. For a period the Louvre accord had produced the necessary results.

What had brought that period of stability to an end was the perception in the markets that the Americans were no longer committed to the accord and were simply concerned to prevent any risk of domestic recession as they saw it.

In November and December the dollar appeared to be given little weight in US policy, with the inevitable result of turmoil on foreign exchanges, with the dollar falling and expected by many to fall further.

Last week, however, the US authorities had demonstrated a renewed commitment to supporting the dollar and that had ended the brief but damaging phase of so-called benign neglect.

"But it is idle to suppose that official intervention on its own, even when co-ordinated internationally and involving full US participation, amounts to a coherent policy."

Important changes were taking place. Although the published US trade deficit had shown little improvement so far, the volume figures had moved very substantially.

There remained real risks in the outlook for the world economy in 1988. While there was no immediate prospect of recession, the substantial dollar depreciation could lead to serious inflationary pressures in the United States. There was also the threat of creeping protectionism which could escalate into a trade war.

The present strength of the world economy gave a breathing space in which to get that economy on to a more sustainable footing.

The right polices had to be put in place and pursued with patience and determination because there were bound to be periods of difficulty to be ridden out.

"Provided we can do that, although there may be some slowdown in world economic growth, I am confident we can avoid the twin dangers of inflation and recession."

Britain was well placed to continue its excellent progress and in 1988 it was likely to be among the fastest growing of the major industrial nations.

The strength of the economy was clear to everyone except the Opposition who were so wedded to living in the past that they could not accept that the policies the Government was following could have led to the success that was evident all around.

The Opposition had predicted a recession in every one of the past six years and in every one it had not happened.

For some time the Opposition had justified their attachment to higher borrowing by reference to the experience of the United States.

They had failed to appreciate the role of low taxation in the rapid creation of jobs in the United States; had ignored the importance of labour market flexibility and low wage increases; and completely failed to appreciate the importance of deregulation and of the enterprise economy.

"As usual, they got hold of the wrong end of every stick."

A successful economy could not be created by the government pumping in money. It depended on the performance of businesses and the individuals at all levels who worked in them.

He said that keeping the economy on track involved keeping a constant watch on all the indicators of how the economy was developing and then taking action as necessary.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that the House had had to endure once agin the claim from the Chancellor that the economy was in a position of near-perfection.

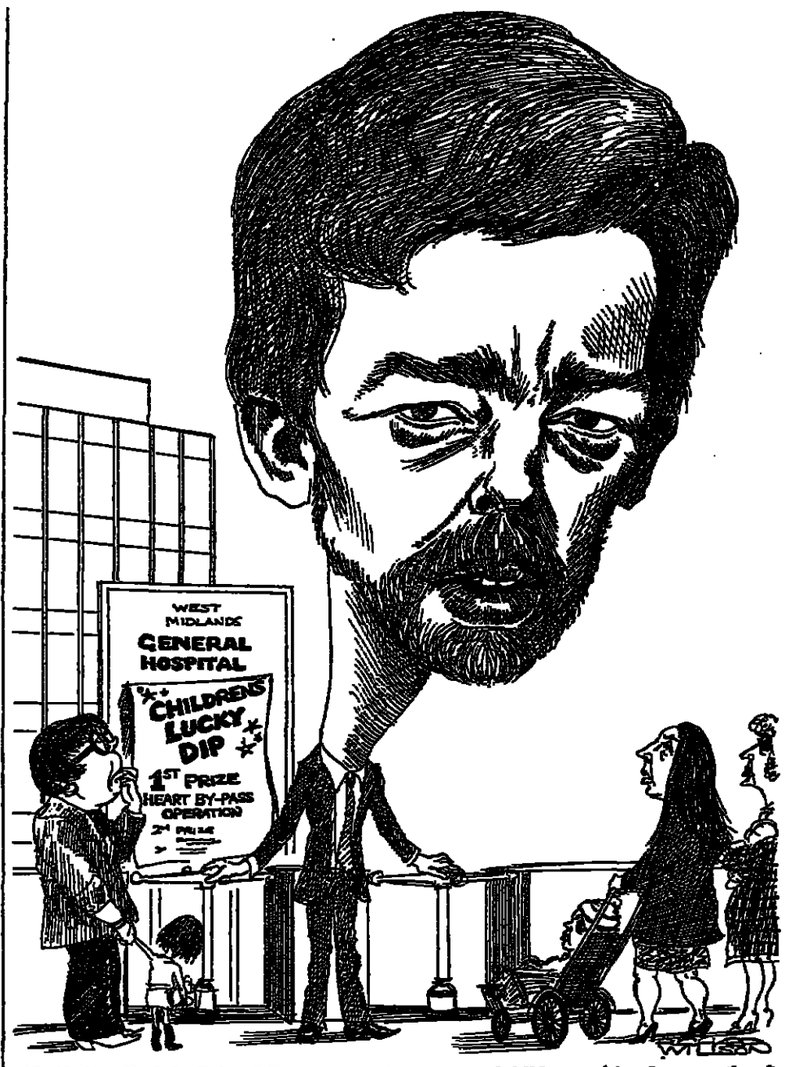
"The Chancellor never misses an opportunity to say how difficult things are in the rest of the world, but how well managed they are here in the United Kingdom.

"To put it mildly, that is a matter of dispute."

A glance at the balance of trade figures, particularly the prognosis for the balance of payments, would soon jolt back to reality anyone who might have temporarily have succumbed to the public relations hype of the Government.

But, assuming that the economy was as strong as the Chancellor said it was, economic commentators believed he would have £3 billion to £4 billion at his disposal in his Budget. It was in this context that the House should look at public expenditure, particularly spending to alleviate the crisis in the National Health Service.

● Budget Day will be Tuesday, March 15, Mr Lawson announced during his speech.



Mr Nellist: Will the Prime Minister meet the parents of children waiting for operations?

NHS splendid under Tories, says Thatcher

PRIME MINISTER

The perpetual state of crisis in the National Health Service in recent months and the tragic cases highlighted in the press led many people to believe that the Prime Minister had blood on her hands, Mr Roy Hughes (Newport East, Lab) said during question time.

Rejecting that allegation, Mrs Thatcher gave examples of what she described as a splendid record of success.

For every five in-patient cases treated in 1979, there were now six; for every 10 out-patient cases treated in 1978, there were now 11; for every heart by-pass operation in 1978, there were now three; for every three hip replacement operations in 1978, there were now four; for every two cataract operations in 1978, there were now three; for every two cervical smear tests in 1978, there were now three; for every two chronic renal failure treatments in 1978, there were now five.

Earlier, some Labour MPs cried: "Shame!" when Mrs Thatcher said that she would not be meeting the West Midlands parents of children awaiting life-saving heart surgery when they presented a petition to No 10 next week.

Mr David Nellist (Coventry South East, Lab) said that with Matthew Collier in a critical condition and other babies still waiting for operations, the parents of 90 children from the West Midlands would be presenting the signatures of more than 50,000 people. Was she too frightened to meet them and explain which child would live and which would not (Labour cheers)?

Mrs Thatcher said that the Birmingham Children's Hospital, where Matthew Collier had a 10-hour operation to repair a hole in the heart, had only been designated a supra-regional centre in 1984 under a Conservative Government and, since then, more than 560 open heart operations had been performed.

There were vastly more open heart operations now than there used to be and 3,000 babies now survived who did not survive eight years ago.

Mr David Atkinson (Bournemouth East, C) said that the first phase of the new Bournemouth General Hospital in his constituency was due to be opened later this year.

It had been planned to build that hospital 10 years ago, but, like so many others, it had been the victim of Labour's incompetence when it brought the country to the brink of bankruptcy. The House should be reminded of the chaos and cuts under the Labour Government.

Mrs Thatcher agreed. The last Labour government had not only cut the capital programme for hospitals but it also cut nurses' and doctors' pay in real terms.

Mr George Gardiner (Reigate, C) asked the Prime Minister to confirm that the purpose of the NHS was not to further the interests or feather the nests of Cohse and Nupe and that the purpose of open tendering was to secure more resources to develop patient care. Would she also condemn these foolish strikes?

Mrs Thatcher confirmed what he had said. The purpose of the NHS was to bring more care to the patients. She thought everyone would regret any strikes at the expense of the patients and she hoped that those strikes would be condemned on all sides.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham Central and Royton, Lab) said that Manchester Royal Infirmary was facing its greatest crisis in 200 years. It was having to issue warnings to employees that the wages might not be able to be paid.

If only a fraction of the billions of pounds which the Chancellor intended to use on income tax cuts were put at the disposal of the NHS, it would help to solve the problem.

Mrs Thatcher said that the Government had already made more money available for the health service and a further £1.1 billion in additional resources would be made available out of the taxpayers' pocket next year. The average family would pay £1,600 to the NHS next year and that was a very considerable amount.

The Government had a duty to try to ensure that value for money was obtained.

Debate on newspapers

Press controls threatened

The following report of a Lords debate on the press appeared in later editions yesterday.

HOUSE OF LORDS

The press was warned by the Government that it could face future statutory control.

The Earl of Arran, a Government whip, said that the Government could not and would not eliminate the possibility of statutory controls on the press if public concern about its conduct was not met by the present arrangements.

Never should proprietors of newspapers look upon themselves as being inviolate or at all times able to hang a hands-off sign outside their gate because that would constitute the gravest folly.

Journalists must at all times prove themselves worthy of the British tradition of press freedom. But that heritage should never be taken for granted.

He was speaking at the end of the debate when he rejected a call from the Earl of Longford for the setting up of a press standards council similar to the one established recently to monitor broadcasting.

Lord Arran said that the case for special arrangements for the oversight of the press was not yet strong enough to justify a departure from Britain's traditional press freedom. However, he said that he should emphasize that the press could tilt the balance if it became significantly less responsive to the Press Council.

Naked and aggressive intrusion into the privacy of the Royal Family was abhorrent to all peers.

He also said that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, will be making a further announcement on the new broadcasting standards council very shortly.

Opening the debate, the Earl of Longford (Lab) said that there was a desperate need to find a remedy for a crippling disease whose long-term effect could only be to corrupt Britain.

The Royal Family had been subject to outrageous treatment by the tabloid press. For example, a story headlined "Diana on the booze" had been a disgraceful fabrication.

In his maiden speech, Lord Deedes, former editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, said that he shared Lord Longford's misgivings and was increasingly troubled by the standing of the national press. It was at the lowest ebb he had known in half a century.

The press was no longer taken as seriously as in the past. It was forfeiting its influence and was in danger of losing its *raison d'être*. It was not closer superintendence of what appeared in newspapers that was needed but closer attention to how and by whom newspapers were acquired.

Lord McGregor of Durris (SDP), who chaired the Royal Commission on the Press, said that he was apprehensive over proposals that could bring the Government into control over the press.

The vast majority of newspapers observed the guidelines of the Press Council. In the case of those that did not do so it should not be beyond the wit of the Government to find non-statutory means of bringing pressure on proprietors.

Lord Ardwick (Lab) said that the House of Lords library ordered daily 18 copies of *The Times*; 16 of *The Daily Telegraph*; 12 of *The Independent*; 10 of *The Guardian*.

It also had eight copies of *The Sun*, the *Daily Express* and the *Daily Mail*, and even three of *The Star*, the "raunchiest" of them all. These tabloids were not consulted solely for their sociological content but also because page three brought back happy memories of a long-departed virility.

He felt that the present phase that the tabloid press was going through would not last for ever. There were signs that, for commercial reasons, the *Daily Express* and *Today* were trying to break out of the mould.

Output has risen by 7.25%



Manufacturing output a head is estimated to have risen by 7.25 per cent in the 12 months to October last year, Mr John Major (above), Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said at question time. Manufacturing output had recovered from the recession of 1980-81, was rising rapidly and the Government expected that it would continue to do so.

Since 1980 export volumes had grown at a similar rate to world trade in manufactured goods for the first time in many years. British manufacturing trade was doing remarkably well and the size of our export volumes was the clearest possible illustration of that.

Moderate pay rises praised

A 1 per cent moderation in pay rises would be worth four times as much to industry as a 1 per cent reduction in interest rates, sustained for a year, Mr Peter Lilley, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said at question time in reply toa question from Mr Ian Taylor (Esher, C).

Third reading

The Social Security Bill was given its third reading in the Commons late on Wednesday, by 258 votes to 225.

Main economies 'doing well'

TREASURY

The Government was confident that there would not be a recession this year, Mr Peter Lilley, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, told MPs during Commons questions.

He said that since the fall in the stock markets in October it was becoming apparent that most of the main economies were growing more rapidly than had then seemed likely to be the case.

"As far as the UK economy is concerned, we predict 3 per cent growth in the non-oil economy, which is very healthy indeed.

"The major countries have co-operated to ensure that the difficult period after the financial markets' crisis has been coped with."

He was replying to Mr William O'Brien (Normanton, Lab), who said that before the Venice conference last year, Mr James Baker, the US Treasury Secretary, had called upon OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) governments to try to set recovery targets.

Since then, stock markets had crashed, the statement made by the Group of Seven major industrial countries had done nothing and governments had had to intervene.

Was it not time that the UK Government started to intervene and set programmes that would develop recovery in this country?

Mr James Wray (Glasgow, Provan, Lab) said that the OECD had predicted that the growth rate would fall from 2.75 to 1.75 in 1989.

Was the Chancellor saying that, after he had sold off all the assets of the country, there would not be a recession?

Mr Lilley replied that he did not think anyone could be categoric about growth rates in 1989.

"We can be reasonably assured that there will be more growth, perhaps more modest than in the past, in 1988. The British economy looks set to do particularly well despite the gloom that Mr Wray clearly hopes to convey."

Mr Stuart Holland (Vauxhall, Lab) recalled that the Chancellor had said towards the end of last year that there was no point in having a G7 meeting unless there was agreement.

"We had agreement on nothing significant."

The whole of the OECD was slowing down. The effect of the cut in the budget deficit in the US would aggravate that.

How on earth was the Government confident that the UK economy would continue to grow when the rest were slowing down?

Mr Lilley replied that the G7 meeting had helped.

He was reasonably sure that the British economy would do well in future.

"The policies that have brought us prosperity are precisely the policies that are needed in times of difficulty if difficulties should arise."

The Opposition sounded like the Noel Coward song: "There are bad times just around the corner".

Thatcher questioned on information Bill

SECRECY

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, asked the Prime Minister why she opposed the Protection of Official Information Bill — to be debated on Friday — or was it a secret?

Mrs Thatcher said that the reasons had already been given in the House.

This was a matter of great complexity and the Government was considering a White Paper with a view to bringing out a Bill.

It was vital that this matter was dealt with by Government measures.

Mr Kinnock said that her case was weak and that was why she had to whip.

The full facilities of the Government could so easily have been put at the disposal of Mr Richard Shepherd for his Bill, so the excuses were absurd.

Some of her colleagues had described her attitude and tactics as monstrous, dangerous, as the political SAS and the tactics of the gulag.

Her response had nothing to do with state security and everything to do with a shallow, spiteful and spurious attitude.

Mrs Thatcher said that a private member's Bill was not the appropriate way to secure changes in this difficult and sensitive area affecting the security of the nation, especially as the Government had brought forward a Bill in 1979 on this subject and it had not secured a passage through the House of Lords.

She added: "We need no lessons in security from him".

MPs will debate TV cameras in chamber

The House of Commons will decide before the end of January whether television cameras should be allowed to record the proceedings.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the Commons, said that he would next week announce the date of the debate. He declined an invitation by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, to disclose his personal view on the matter before the debate.

The main business next week in the House of Commons will be:

Monday: Criminal Justice Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Debate on Opposition motion on the crisis in the NHS.

Wednesday: Debate on annual report on Hong Kong. British Railways (London) Bill, second reading.

Thursday: Firearms (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Friday: Abortion (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

The main business in the House of Lords next week will be:

Monday: Legal Aid Bill, committee, second day.

Tuesday: Legal Aid Bill, committee, third day.

Wednesday: Debates on cultural diplomacy resources; increasing number of homeless people; and implementation of the Salmon Act, 1986.

Thursday: Legal Aid Bill, committee, fourth day. Betting Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill, second reading. Debate on damage to trees caused by October storms.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Protection of Official Information Bill, second reading.

Lords (11): Debate on White Paper on Human Fertilization and Embryology.

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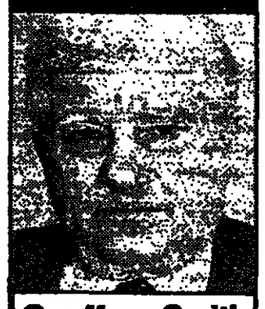
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COMMENTARY



Geoffrey Smith

Those who believe that all publicity is good publicity should rush to join the Liberals and Social Democrats. Nobody else will after they have made such fools of themselves in their attempt to merge. Not since the Labour civil war was at its height has a British political party claimed such public attention for its inability to manage its own affairs.

What is astonishing about the fiasco is the way that they got into the mess. It had always seemed possible that the insistence of Social Democrats that their firm policies must not be diluted by feeble and flabby Liberals would prove too much for their prospective partners. But it had not been anticipated that the Social Democrats would themselves produce a policy document of such extraordinary political naivety that the Liberals were quite right to balk.

There were five contentious proposals in the statement: on nuclear defence, civil nuclear power, phasing out mortgage tax relief, concentrating child benefit on the poor and extending VAT to food and children's clothing. What is significant about that list is that it is in ascending order of controversy among Liberal parliamentarians and negotiators.

In other words, defence and civil nuclear were not the subjects of greatest difficulty as had been expected. This was not because the document temporized on these points. The section on defence, accepting the necessity of Trident, was as firm as any Social Democrat might have wished or any Liberal have feared.

There was naturally some dispute on that, and still more on the need to continue research and development of civil nuclear energy. But most Liberals were eager to merge and seem to have appreciated that they would have to make some compromises to get the Social Democrats on board.

They were, however, surprised and outraged by the proposals on VAT in particular. So were a number of Social Democrats. This was not in reality, therefore, the straightforward Liberal-Social Democratic split that might have been expected.

The critics were justified on two scores. First, the idea of putting VAT on food and children's clothing was bad politics. This is a policy that some British government at some time may be forced to accept by the European Community. But it should do so, if at all, only with the greatest reluctance after a long struggle.

Such a policy would be undesirable socially and highly unpopular politically. That is why Mrs Thatcher has publicly and repeatedly set her face against it. For a new party to embrace such ideas without any pressure to do so would be the height of folly.

It is true that they are presented in the document in the setting of a broader social package. But anyone with any knowledge of politics must know that they would be seized upon by the other parties and by public opinion without a delicate regard for that context.

The second objection is that such ideas would represent new policy not just for the Liberals but for the Social Democrats as well. This raises some awkward questions. Did the author of the policy statement, and Mr Maclennan who pressed for it so hard, appreciate the purpose it was supposed to serve?

Did Mr Steel pay enough attention to what the document said before it was too late? Or did he just want to get something that he could agree with the Social Democrats?

The object of having such a statement from the two leaders before a new party was in being was surely to send a signal, especially to those Social Democrats who might be wondering whether to go off with Dr Owen, but also to the electorate. They needed to be reassured both that there was sufficient common ground between the Liberals and the majority of Social Democrats, and that a new party would not be characterized by a Liberal preference for mush.

But obviously no individuals could commit a democratic party before it was born to a whole range of policy positions. That would have rendered the procedures of the party a farce and its members an army of cyphers.

So this was an occasion not to try out a fresh set of bright ideas but to restate a number of basic propositions that were essential for Social Democrats and might be acceptable for Liberals. That purpose always seemed to me a sensible one.

But what emerged was ridiculously ambitious and bound to be unacceptable. A new party could have been set up perfectly well without prior agreement on VAT, child benefit or mortgage tax relief.

So what seemed a reasonable prospect a week ago has been thrown away. Even if a party is established, which must now be doubtful, it is unlikely to command much public respect for some time to come.

£600m urged in tax relief to bolster UK research

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Electronic Engineering Association has recommended that Britain should increase its spending on research and development by more than £600 million a year.

The money would come from an incentive scheme of tax allowances on investments in research and, particularly, development projects, the association says in a report to be submitted to the Department of Trade and Industry today.

According to the report, an increase of 13 per cent in civil industrial research and development is needed to reverse Britain's £12 billion balance of trade deficit in manufactured goods.

Britain's international competitiveness in manufactured goods will continue to slide unless strong action is taken, it says.

The study suggests that deferred taxes could be repaid within three to four years from increased sales and reducing the imbalance in trade.

Industrial research and development is said to have a short "payback" period, and to have a powerful multiplying effect on sales and jobs.

Calculations for the electronics industry show that more than 37,300 jobs could be created directly by a 13 per cent-a-year increase in research and development.

When applied to all manufacturing industries, the report estimates that more than 93,000 jobs would be created directly, and up to 250,000 indirectly.

Mr Alan Carnell, chairman of the association, said: "The study of possible strategies for stimulating industrial growth was prompted by our anxiety over the continued decline in the trade balance in manufactured goods. We have a very serious problem on our hands."

The report also says urgent action is needed over instabilities in exchange rates and calls for more effective advance planning of the spending of £29 billion a year by government departments on goods and services, an increase in the amount and efficiency of government-funded research and development, and immediate measures to increase technical education at all levels.

More than 90 per cent of civil industry research and development is financed by private industry, the report says, and the remainder, involving government grants, is declining.

The report says there is a clear connection between research and development and manufacturing output. It shows that the gap between Britain and its main competitors in research and development is widening.

"The inescapable conclusion is that the UK has fallen behind in research and development and in manufacturing growth since 1980, and that these two problems are related."

The proposed incentive scheme would be financed by amendments to corporation tax. The tax has been reduced gradually by the Government from 52 per cent to 35 per cent, but gains have been offset by the abolition of allowances for investment in capital equipment.

As a result, corporation tax has increased by almost 75 per cent since 1984, which is costing industry an extra £4.5 billion a year.

The report says the electronics industry is devoting as much of its funds as possible to marketing existing products abroad, and therefore rationing research and development spending to an extent not seen before this decade.

The companies are said to be optimistic about meeting targets at the level they can afford, but that level cannot close Britain's trade gap in electronic products, particularly computers and components.

The association says tax incentive schemes are offered in the United States, Japan, France and several other countries.



Lieutenant Novis with his medal and citation yesterday (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance).

Crocodile hero wins medal

A Coldstream Guards officer who saved a boy's life by snatching him from the jaws of a crocodile was presented with a bravery medal in London yesterday.

Second-Lieutenant Rupert Novis, aged 20, received a Royal Humane Society silver medal for dragging Jeremy Lloyd, aged 13, to safety after wrestling under water with the 11-foot long crocodile on the river Zambezi in Zimbabwe.

The crocodile struck as the lieutenant was swimming with friends during a canoeing expedition in May 1986 when he was taking a year off between Harrow and the Army.

Lieutenant Novis, Mr Alexander Shaw, a friend, and the boy's father, Mr Hugh Lloyd, of Johannesburg, dived in to save the boy.

"The boy's father put his arm into the crocodile's mouth, forcing it to release his son. I then pulled him out of its jaws. His father had his arm bitten off", the lieutenant said.

The boy and his father were taken upstream in the canoe and flown to the Zimbabwean capital of Harare for surgery. The boy is now fully recovered.

Lieutenant Novis, of Kensington, west London, was presented with the silver medal at the Coldstream Guards regimental headquarters at Wellington Barracks, London.

Mr Shaw, aged 20, a student, of Notting Hill, west London, and the boy's father were awarded the society's bronze medals.

Social Trends

Ageing population fear modified by birthrate

Despite worries about the growing dependent population, the Social Trends compendium of official statistics suggests that in the next few years Britain will be in a more favourable position than its European neighbours. David Walker reports.

Between now and the end of the century, the number of people in Britain aged 85 and over will increase by 500,000.

Such statistics worry health planners and politicians because the infirm elderly require looking after in hospitals and nursing homes and require public money to be spent on them.

Social Trends offers a corrective viewpoint, however. Rather than taking the elderly alone, the statisticians group together in the "dependent population" those aged under 15 as well as men over 65 and women over 60.

What matters is the ratio between that group of people who cannot work and the numbers of those, aged 15 to 65, who can.

It turns out that the dependent population as a proportion of the population of working age was, in 1986, less than in 1981 because there were fewer children. Although the dependent population will grow during the 1990s, in the year 2001 it will still be about 6 per cent less than in 1971.

Dependent population (children and pensioners) per 100 of working population

	0-15	65+*	all ages
1971	43.8	28.0	71.8
1981	37.1	29.7	66.8
1986	33.5	29.6	63.1
1991	33.2	29.9	63.1
2001	35.8	29.9	65.7

* 60 in the case of women

The population of working age, now 34,100,000, will grow to 34,300,000 by 1991.

The number of pupils in state primary and secondary schools will fall, at least until the later 1990s.

In January last year there were 3,900,000 pupils. The projected total for January 1994 is 3,500,000, rising to 3,600,000 in January 1998.

Britain's birthrate, calculated from the number of births per 1,000 people of all ages, looks remarkably buoyant in a European context. The rate of 13.3 is exceeded in the EEC only by France and the Republic of Ireland. *Social Trends* predicts it will rise to 14.4 in the early 1990s before falling back to 12.9 by the start of the twenty-first century.

That will ensure that Britain's population continues to grow.

About 4.5 per cent of Britain's present population of 56,800,000 is non-white. *Social Trends* notes that previous statisticians' predictions that the fertility of black and Asian women would drop the longer they lived in Britain appears to be borne out.

Though population growth will be moderate, the number of households will rise by 2,000,000 between 1986 and 2001, largely because of the expected increase in one-person households.

Retired people are expected to form a declining proportion of one-person households, indicating that living alone will become much more common *Social Trends* (Stationery Office, £21).

Europe's future population

	Millions 1990	2000
UK	57.3	58.9
Belgium	9.0	9.7
Denmark	5.1	5.2
France	56.1	57.9
Germany	61.0	60.5
Greece	10.0	10.3
Irish Republic	3.7	4.0
Italy	57.3	57.2
Luxembourg	0.4	0.4
Netherlands	14.9	15.6
Portugal	10.4	11.1
Spain	39.2	40.7
EEC	324.6	329.8

Leading article, page 13

Tomorrow: How Britain spends its increasing wealth

Record university cash

Cambridge University won record sponsorship for its research effort last year with £21 million pouring in from industry, research councils and charities.

Figures to be published next week will show that Cambridge won 1,670 research grants in 1987, increasing its income from research contracts by 12 per cent over the previous year.

Britain's second oldest university also increased the number of research contracts it won from foreign companies by 20 per cent in the face of competition from European and American universities.

The Government has announced that Cambridge will be the first of a new breed of university research centres. It will get £5.3 million to set up a project investigating high-temperature superconductors.

Weekend food prices

Pork is good buy for diet watchers

Shoppers could take a fresh look at pork, which is economical and delicious but, not an obvious purchase for those conscious of health and diet.

However, possibly as a result of this, butchers are cutting and trimming pork of fat and bone so that there is no waste, little animal fat and a low calorie count. A 3½oz helping of lean pork contains only 185 calories.

Boneless loin chops cost about £2.50 a lb, leg steaks £2.25, and double loin butterfly chops about £2.20. Tenderloin and fillet cost between £2.50 and £2.80. Boneless loin roast is about £1.80, boneless shoulder £1.40 and boneless leg £1.70.

Lamb is down in price, whole leg costing between £1.58 and £1.99, whole shoulder from £1.05, loin chops £2.12 and breast about 56p a lb. There should be some good buys of New Zealand lamb: best end chops are down 5p a lb.

Any increase in beef is about 1p-3p a lb and stewing steak, braising, chuck and blade are a little cheaper than last week.

The storms which greeted fishermen after their holiday break resulting in poor catches have driven up the price of fresh fish. Earlier in the week some species were 10p-18p a lb higher than before Christmas. However by the weekend they should be cheaper.

Billingsgate reports a wide selection of white and oily fish, including coley at £1.30 a lb, and haddock about £3. Cod is a more economical buy at £2.45 for best Scarborough fillets and £1.99 for cutlets. Whole plaice is about £1.50 and the price of fillet is coming down and should be about £2.80. Skate is a good buy at about £2.25.

Norway Herrings at 74p, sprats at 60p, sardines at £1.15 and mackerel from 57p a lb are good buys. There are large whole trout at about £2.80 a lb and small whole salmon at £3.50 a lb.

Worth looking out for are bogue £1.90 a lb, a small Mediterranean fish similar in appearance to snapper but are in fact a species of bream. Octopus from Australia is excellent value at £1.30 a lb.

Smoked fish, which are plentiful, include bloaters and kippers at £1.20 a lb, buckling £1.60 a lb and smoked haddock £1.80 a lb.

With new year celebrations out of the way now is the time to make home-made marmalade. Sevilles, the marmalade oranges, are widely available at 25p-35p a lb. Unlike eating oranges their season is short from January to mid-February.

All citrus fruit is top quality and there is an enormous choice. Look out for minneolas and easy peeler cross between tangerine and grapefruit at 20p-25p each.

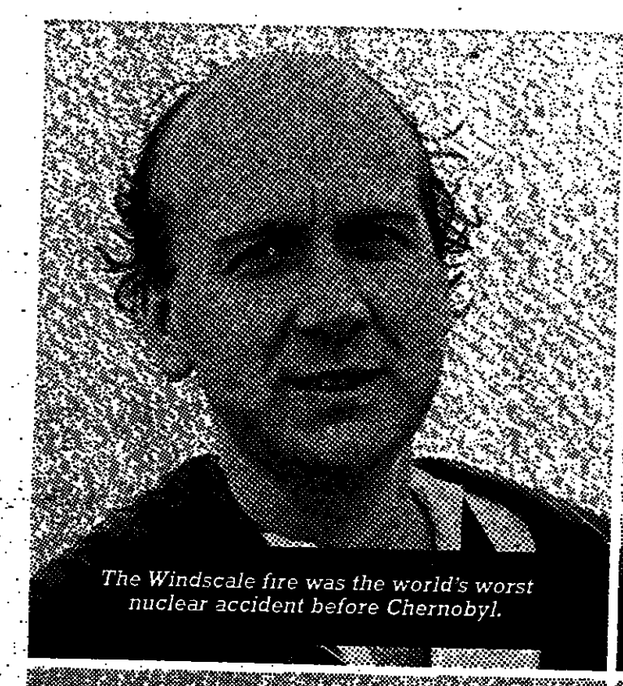
English apples and pears and plentiful and good value between 25p-45p a lb. Avocados cost between 25p-60p each and the small stoneless avocados about 70p a lb.

Home-grown vegetables are in good supply, including Jerusalem artichokes at 40p-50p a lb. Imports include globe artichokes from Egypt at 40p-70p each and sweet corn from Thailand about £2.50 a lb.

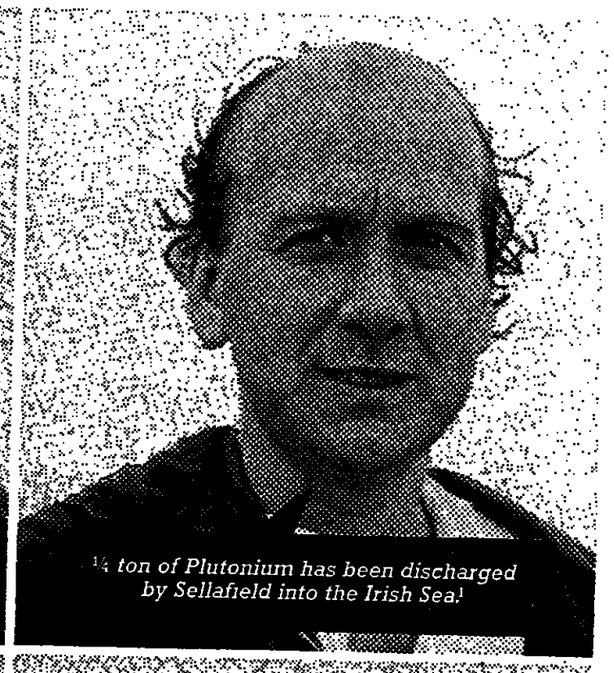
Tomatoes at 55p-75p a lb, Chinese leaves 70p-95p a head and celery 40p-60p a head are the best salad buys.

Special meat offers available inlcude Asda's fresh basted chicken at 59p a lb, home produced braising steak at £1.39 a lb and home produced stewing beef at £1.09 a lb. Tesco home produced leg of lamb is £1.79 a lb and rump steak is £2.39 a lb.

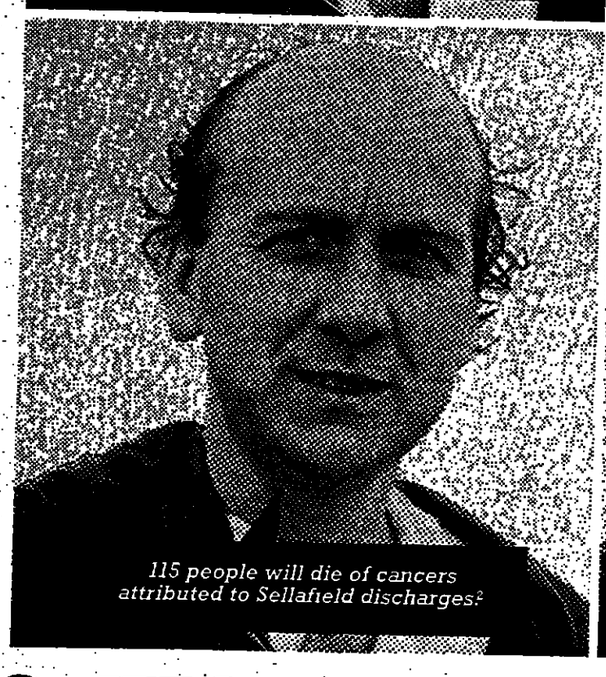
Bejam has 3lb packs of chicken quarters at £2.19 and 4lb pack of chicken thighs at £2.59, down 20p a lb.



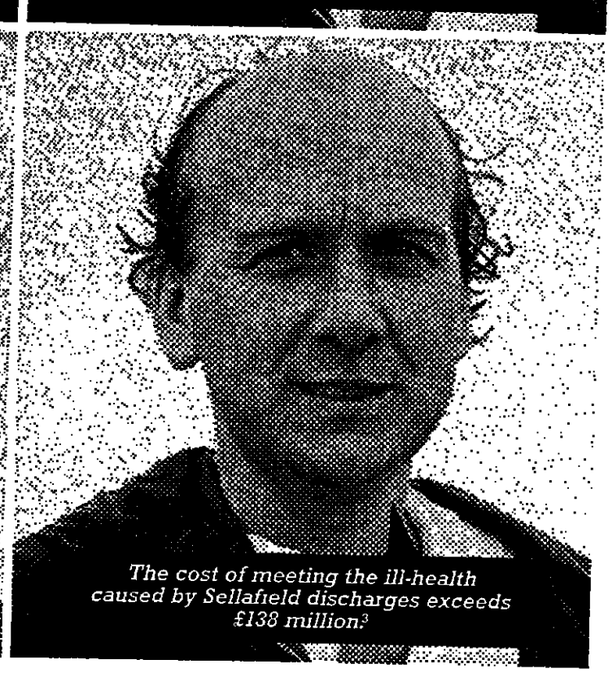
The Windscale fire was the world's worst nuclear accident before Chernobyl.



¼ ton of Plutonium has been discharged by Sellafield into the Irish Sea.[1]



115 people will die of cancers attributed to Sellafield discharges.[2]



The cost of meeting the ill-health caused by Sellafield discharges exceeds £138 million.[3]

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Hans Guyt was jailed for interfering with a waste-pipe at Sellafield whilst drawing attention to the discharging of radioactive waste.

Now British Nuclear Fuels want to sue him for £125,000.

They claim to operate an 'open' policy. So why are they keen that any dissenting voice should be silenced?

The emerging catalogue of leaks, accidents, and deliberate discharges over 30 years suggests their plant is nowhere near as safe as they would like us to believe.

In fact, the evidence points to it being positively lethal.

1. Based on BNF discharge data.
2. Based on USA Government Biological Effects of Ionising Radiation Committee BEIRIC risk estimates.
3. Based on USA Government Environmental Protection Agency criteria.

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New Japan offensive in TV war

From David Watts
Tokyo

The Japanese are about to make a pre-emptive move in the struggle for world domination of the new high-definition television market that will soon revolutionize viewing.

Two government ministries are investing 4,000 million yen (£16.7 million) in promoting the Tokyo-backed system among Japanese consumers, clearing the way for a quick assault on the world markets.

Failure to agree on a uniform standard for high-definition television (Hivision) at a special meeting in May of next year could result in the division of the world into competing systems which would be unable to show each other's films without expensive conversion.

Adoption of the Japanese system would ultimately mean the replacement of all broadcasting equipment and television sets as Hivision increased its penetration. The European system under development would be compatible with current sets and provide facilities for broadcasting in all the main European languages at once. The Japanese system would offer only two channels of sound.

With positions rapidly becoming entrenched on both sides, the chances of an agreement appear to be receding. The consequences could be much more serious than the previous PAL-Secam-NTSC split dividing Europe, North America and Japan.

Though agreement was reached with the EEC a few weeks ago to set up a working group with the Japanese Ministry of Post and Telecommunications to study establishing a world system, recent statements from industry have cast doubt on the willingness of the Japanese side to reach such an agreement. The ministry is reported to be split between internationalists, who want to see a compatible system, and others who say that Japan cannot wait.

Mr Andreas van Agt, the European Community's ambassador, served warning yesterday: "Given the fact that enormous amounts of money are concerned, there is an important difficulty for consumers all over the world. The developing world is not able to afford the totally new television equipment which will be needed in the case of the introduction of the Japanese system."

Mr van Agt said the experience of the introduction of colour television broadcasts should be borne in mind, when it was possible to receive colour broadcasts on black and white sets.

Japan expects to start high-definition television broadcasting from a new satellite in 1990 and need acceptance of their system next year. Europe's high-definition television is being developed by a consortium led by Philips of Holland which includes Thorne-EMI of Britain and Thomson of France.

The Europeans believe their system, with a greater number of scanning lines and more modern broadcast band compression equipment, is superior, but development is less advanced than in Japan.

Politically and economically the Europeans need more time to get agreement on a system which will be compatible worldwide and want a chance to recoup some of their markets from Japanese electronics manufacturers.

The US film and television industries are pushing hard for the new system because it would make film and television use interchangeable without loss of quality. Japanese-American wealth and economies of that scale would make purely European television and film productions on a different system unable to compete on the world market with the sort of cut-price packaging offered by US production companies.

Japan's national broadcasting system, NHK, which is the equivalent of the BBC, has already put 17 years of work into developing the system and produced 83 programmes in the new format last year.

Chirac concedes victory to Iran exiles

From Philip Jacobson
Paris

Behind a flimsy smokescreen of humanitarian concern, the French Government was preparing yesterday to receive back seven of the Iranian exiles it had expelled to Gabon last month as a threat to national security.

This comes a bare 48 hours after the Prime Minister, M Jacques Chirac, had insisted that there was "no question" of a change of mind concerning the original decision to bundle a group of anti-Khomeini militants out of the country, apparently as part of a deal with Tehran which secured the release of two Frenchmen held hostage in Lebanon. It is already being interpreted as a stinging setback in the run-up to the two-round presidential election on April 24 and May 8.

Besides those allowed to return to France, another eight alleged members of the Mujahedin deported to the West African state were accepted by Spain yesterday. Their cases, French government sources indicated, were to be "re-examined".

Since a dawn raid in the Paris region resulted in the controversial expulsions, the Government of M Chirac has come under strong pressure to justify its action. Friends and relatives of those sent to Gabon began a well-publicized hunger strike outside the Paris headquarters of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

A number of them, including several women, have since needed emergency medical attention, as have some of their colleagues refusing food during a simultaneous protest in Libreville, the capital of Gabon.

Although official spokesmen in Paris were yesterday emphasizing the Government's pressing concern for the health of the hunger strikers, it is privately accepted that M Chirac had made a mess of the affair.

As was entirely predictable, the subtle but damaging interventions of President Mitterrand, receiving human rights delegations and leaking reports of his concern about the situation, have contributed substantially to his rival's setback. A statement from the Elysée Palace observed, with scarcely concealed satisfaction, that the solution "conformed to that sought by M Mitterrand".

The extreme sensitivity of the French Government to this issue is reflected by the revelation that M Charles Pasqua, the hardline Interior Minister, who played a key role in the negotiations with the Khomeini regime, subsequently conducted "peace talks" with the Mujahedin leader.

● GENEVA: M Jean-Pierre Hocke, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, said in a statement yesterday : "The High Commissioner welcomes the initiatives taken which have solved certain immediate problems, in particular the hunger strikes led by refugees in Paris, Libreville and elsewhere" (Reuter reports).

He was pleased that humanitarian cases to which he had drawn the attention of the French authorities will be allowed to rejoin their families.



Victory smiles outside the French Embassy in London as 22 Iranian women, ending a 30-day hunger strike, hail the decision to allow seven anti-Khomeini exiles who had been deported to Gabon to return to France (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

WORLD ROUNDUP

Drug trafficking rise is attacked

Worldwide drug production and trafficking has reached "alarming proportions" and is being masterminded by "criminal organizations with international links and accomplices in financial circles", according to a report issued yesterday by the UN International Narcotics Control Board (Alexander Johnson writes).

The 29-page report emphasizes that some South American countries are in economic danger because huge sums from trafficking have had a distorting effect. It adds that "in some areas, alliances between traffickers and guerrillas present a formidable threat to South American security".

New chief for WHO

Geneva – The next Director-General of the World Health Organization will be Dr Hiroshi Nakajima, aged 59, of Japan. He succeeds Dr Halfdan Mahler, of Denmark, who has held the post for 15 years and retires in July (Alan McGregor writes).

Successive votes yesterday narrowed the choice to Dr Nakajima or Dr Carlyle Guerra de Macedo, of Brazil. The former was elected by 17 votes to 13 with one abstention. Dr Nakajima, who is currently director of the Organization's Western Pacific regional office, becomes the first Japanese to head a leading UN specialized agency.

Work for Yeltsin

Moscow – The Kremlin confirmed for the first time yesterday that Mr Boris Yeltsin, the disgraced former Moscow party chief, has left hospital and begun work in his new, much humbler position as first deputy chairman of the State Construction Committee (Christopher Walker writes).

In reply to a question from *The Times*, Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Kremlin's chief spokesman, said that although Mr Yeltsin had now begun work at his new post, which carries the rank of minister but is purely administrative, "in keeping with doctors' recommendations he is as yet working part-time."

Dutch report oil find

Pernis (AP) – The Netherlands has struck oil right under one of Western Europe's largest oil refineries, the Dutch Petroleum Company said yesterday. The substantial oil deposit was discovered in November during test drilling at the Royal Dutch Shell refinery near this suburb of Rotterdam, according to a company spokesman. A substantial natural gas deposit was also found.

Mubarak tour ends

Muscat (AFP) – President Mubarak of Egypt left Oman yesterday at the end of his first official tour of the Gulf.

He was seen off by Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman as he boarded a plane en route for Jordan. He was expected to make a stopover in Saudi Arabia to visit Mecca. Meanwhile, in the first reported attack on a tanker this year, two Filipino crewmen were injured when an Iranian gunboat fired on the Liberian-registered Petrobulk Pioneer.

Taunt for Hawke

Hobart (Reuter) – Mr Bob Hawke, Australia's Prime Minister, clashed with Aboriginal protesters yesterday when he arrived here to start a tall ships race to Sydney, celebrating the bicentennial.

He was heckled by Aborigines shouting: "Are you proud to be an Australian today, Mr Hawke?" Noting that they were led by Mr Michael Mansell, a lawyer who visited Tripoli last year, Mr Hawke countered: "Prouder than to be a friend of Libya."

Triplets make history

Los Angeles (Reuter) – Triplets, two boys and a girl, were born to a 35-year-old mother on Wednesday from the transfer of frozen embryos, apparently the first time such an event has occurred, Dr Richard Paulson, a director of the California Reproductive Health Institute, said. Identical twin boys, weighing 1lb 14oz and 2lb 3oz were born first, followed by the girl weighing 2lb 4oz. "With the birth of the identical boys, we have undeniable proof that an embryo did split," Dr Paulson said. "This is a truly amazing occurrence."

Bonn woos Syria as key to peace

From John England, Bonn

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, will fly to Damascus today in a bid to spur "new impulses" towards an international peace conference on the Middle East.

His two-day visit, during which he will have talks with President Assad, comes after recent trips to Cairo, Riyadh, Baghdad and Amman. He is also due to visit Jerusalem on January 23.

Herr Genscher called yesterday for a speedy peace conference, saying it was the only means of improving the Middle East situation. He also emphasized the "key role" to be played by Syria.

The situation in Lebanon and the Gulf War will also be on Herr Genscher's agenda, and he is expected to ask the Syrians for help in winning freedom for Dr Rudolf Cordes, aged 53, a West German businessman who was kidnapped in Beirut almost exactly a year ago.

Syria and Iran were instrumental in the release last September of another West German hostage, Herr Alfred Schmidt, aged 48, who was abducted four days after Dr Cordes. A West German newspaper yesterday reported that Dr Cordes, the Lebanon manager of the Hoechst chemicals concern, had made three suicide attempts.

A Lebanese, Mr Abbas Ali Hamadei, aged 29, is now on trial in Düsseldorf charged with both kidnappings.

The West Germans will try to further sweeten their improved relations with Damascus by achieving the lifting of the remaining EEC sanctions against Syria.

But that step, as well as new EEC development aid for Syria and preferential treatment for Syrian exports to Europe, faces a continuing firm British veto.

Herr Genscher's visit to Syria is his first since August, 1985, and the first by any senior European figure since a Jordanian was jailed for 14 years in November 1986, for making a bomb attack in West Berlin with explosive supplied by the Syrian Embassy in East Berlin. The man, Ahmed Hasi, is a brother of Nezar Hindawi, whom a London court imprisoned a month earlier for 45 years for attempting to blow up an El Al airliner.

Israel detains Palestinian journalists

From Ian Murray, Tel Aviv

Five leading Palestinian journalists were arrested yesterday as Israeli security forces tightened their grip on the occupied territories. One of them was Mr Hanna Siniora, editor of *al-Fajr*, one of only two Palestinians accepted in 1985 by Israel as a potential peace negotiator. He was later released on bail after being charged with two security offences.

With an extended curfew system beginning to bite, there was relative calm in most areas through the day, and only six towns or camps reported disturbances so serious that troops used rubber bullets and tear gas to break them up.

Last night a military spokesman said that 13 of the 28 Palestinian refugee camps were under curfew.

One man was shot dead at the village of Kissan, near Bethlehem, in an area where there is a long-running dispute between Bedouin and Israeli settlers over the land. The Army said the man apparently died when troops opened fire to disperse herds of sheep on the firing range there, although Palestinian sources said he was shot by a settler.

Palestinian sources also claimed that two babies and a youth, aged 18, died in Gaza as a result of suffocation from tear gas. The Army issued a statement saying: "This is medically impossible."

Against the background of continuing violence a group of prominent Palestinian moderates held a press conference in Jerusalem to put forward 14 demands "to prepare the atmosphere" for an international peace conference to negotiate a lasting settlement.

One journalist, Mr Ibrahim Kanaeen, owner of the Palestine Press Service, and a prominent trade unionist, Mr Ghassan Ayoub, were arrested just as the press conference began, but were released later after questioning.

The conference began late because, according to the Rev Odeh Rantissi, the Anglican priest chairing it, they had been waiting for people from Gaza, who had in the end been prevented from coming by the military authorities. "What we want is peace," he said. "Not spelt 'piece', but 'peace' in capital letters."

The 14 points included an end to deportations, the release of all prisoners of the disturbances, the "lifting of the siege" of the camps, an inquiry into the behaviour of troops, an end to all Israeli settlements, an end to discriminatory tax and controls, and the granting of political freedom to include even the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Dr Sari Nusseibeh, a professor at Bir Zeit University, read out the list and warned that, if these rights were not recognized, "Israeli occupation will lead to further violence and bloodshed and a further deepening of hatred. The opportunity for achieving peace will also move further away."

Mr Siniora, who would have been invited to take part, was in custody at the time. He was charged with encouraging terrorism during a 1986 Washington press conference and with planning to attend a secret meeting that morning. He said later the only three meetings he had planned were with an Israeli journalist, the new Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem, and Mr Marrack Goulding, UN Under Secretary-General for special political affairs, here on a fact-finding mission.

"These rough methods will only add fuel to the fire," Mr Siniora said on his release. "What is needed is not toughness but a political statement to cool things down."

The other three journalists arrested were all detained for inquiries into alleged involvement with terrorist organizations. They are Mr Salah Zuheikeh, Mr Muhammad Zahaykeh and Mr Ghaith Abdal Loal.

Mr Goulding, after being at the centre of a rowdy demonstration at a camp in Gaza the previous day, managed to make a quiet visit to the camp of Deheisheh, outside Bethlehem. Officials kept television cameras at bay as he talked and sipped tea with residents.

"The camps, to a greater or lesser degree, are pretty terrible places and the residents have a great deal to complain about," Mr Goulding said.

At his own request, he had a second meeting with Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, to express the UN's concern and disappointment at the way Israel had ignored the Security Council resolution condemning the deportation of Palestinians.

Mr Peres told him that this was a legal procedure in which the Foreign Ministry could not interfere. Israel would continue to do everything possible to calm the situation, he said, and repeated that the only real solution was a political one.

Some of yesterday's demonstrations were in protest at the deportations on Wednesday of four Palestinians to south Lebanon. The four, accused of being among the leaders of the disturbances, include two who are said to be important members of the *Shabiba* (Comrades), the youth wing of Fatah, which has been prominent in the demonstrations.

The extended curfew in some camps, particularly in Gaza where seven of the eight are now closed, is causing increasing concern among UN Relief and Welfare Agency staff because of the run-down in food supplies. The agency is finding it difficult even to get its emergency supplies into the camps and is concerned that children and pregnant women may be running seriously short of essential supplies.

Baghdad (AP) – Mr Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, said yesterday that he was prepared to accept the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which recognizes Israel's right to exist, if the United States and Israel agreed to a Middle East peace conference. The *PLO* had previously rejected it because it did not refer to a Palestinian state.

US curbs free speech at school

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

American children do not have the right to free speech in school newspapers, the Supreme Court has ruled in a landmark decision that ends bitter conflict over pupils' rights. It means that articles on drugs, sex, pregnancy, birth control and politics can be censored by headmasters.

The ruling, by five votes to three, reverses an earlier Appeals Court decision and confirms a trend within the Supreme Court in recent years to curtail the constitutional rights of school children. The decision also covers school plays and other activities that are "part of the school curriculum".

It represents an abrupt departure from a key 1969 ruling in which the court said pupils could not be expelled for wearing black armbands in protest against the Vietnam War. That decision imposed significant limitations on the authority of school officials to discipline students. At the time, the court said pupils did not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the school gate."

But in the new case the court quoted approvingly from a dissenting view in the 1969 decision "stating that the Constitution did not compel the teachers, parents and elected school officials to surrender control of the American school system to school students".

The three dissenting judges said the decision was an approval of "brutal censorship" and "thought control in the high school".

School officials could be allowed to suppress any speech that might run counter to the Administration's moral or political views, allowing authorities to "convert our public schools into enclaves of totalitarianism that strangled the free mind at its source".

The ruling was in a case that began in May 1983 when a principal in Hazlewood, Missouri, deleted two articles from a high school newspaper. One was about the pregnancies, sexual experiences and birth control techniques of three unnamed pupils at the school; the other discussed divorce and included the complaints of a student, who was named, about her father. Neither contained graphic accounts of sexual activity.

The decision stated: "A school must be able to take into account the emotional maturity of the intended audience in determining whether to disseminate student speech on potentially sensitive topics.

"A school must also retain the authority to refuse to sponsor student speech that might reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol abuse, irresponsible sex or conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order."

School authorities welcomed the ruling yesterday. But Mr Richard Schmidt, general counsel of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, said it could open the door to increased censorship. School officials confronted with a controversial story might decide that "it's easier to pull it out of the paper rather than arouse the natives".

Ex-IRA chief to be fêted at fund-raiser in New York

From Charles Bremner, New York

In the midst of claims of growing support for the Irish Republican cause in America, Mr Seamus Twomey, a former Chief of Staff of the Provisional IRA, is to appear tonight as guest of honour at a New York fund-raising banquet for Noraid, the IRA's American support organization.

Mr Twomey, who became a folk hero in republican circles when he escaped by helicopter from a Dublin prison a decade ago, embarrassed US officials when he slipped into the country in December along with Mr Caoibhin O'Caolain, another senior member of Sinn Fein.

The two men evaded a ban on their entry by using anglicized versions of their names. Leaders of the Northern Aid Committee say Mr Twomey's contacts with American local politicians have helped win support for Northern Ireland's republican cause, which they say is on the rise again after a sharp drop in sympathy for the "armed struggle" against British forces in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The US Administration ruled in 1981 that Noraid was a local agent for the IRA and Sinn Fein, and ordered it to register its activities under special laws. Republican activists were banned from entry, gun-runners have been arrested, and Britain has run an effective publicity campaign to inform Irish Americans and political leaders of Ulster's realities.

But despite the British effort, many Irish Americans retain a misty and romantic idea of the IRA, and politicians sensitive to Irish feeling generally avoid condemning the Provisionals' actions as terrorist.

Mr Martin Galvin, a New York lawyer and national spokesman for Noraid, said yesterday that his organization was expanding rapidly again, thanks to a wave of new immigrants from Ireland during the past few years, and also because of a weariness over the lack of a political solution in the North.

هكذا من الاصل

Concern grows in London and Bonn at personality clash

Thatcher and Kohl wage their own 'cold war'

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

West German officialdom is becoming anxious that the relationship between London and Bonn is suffering from increasing neglect. The chill appears to be caused by the lack of warmth between Mrs Thatcher and Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The leaders are having difficulty in finding a date for a full-scale bilateral meeting, which is already a year overdue. Two dates in February for Chancellor Kohl to spend a whole day in London with her were considered but found to be "impractical".

Officials now say it is unlikely that they will meet, except perhaps briefly, before the special EEC Council which Chancellor Kohl is chairing in Brussels on February 11.

Although there have been real difficulties in making their diaries coincide, well-informed sources feel that a pattern of reducing the time spent together is emerging. Rather than the leaders avoiding each other entirely — which is anyway impossible — it involves shorter meetings confined within narrower subject limits.

Diplomats suspect she sees Chancellor Kohl as a waffler who is too fond of the empty phrase

"The two have very little to say to each other. The part played by personalities in the (bilateral) relationship should not be underestimated," said Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, West Germany's best-known Anglophile.

Mr George Robertson, a Labour foreign affairs spokesman and vice-chairman of the British-German Group at Westminster, said: "There has been a cooling of the relationship. A lot of it has to do with chemistry between the two leaders."

Diplomatic sources said it was suspected that Mrs Thatcher lacked respect for Chancellor Kohl, seeing him as a "waffler" fond of empty phrases. He was equally unhappy with her for being too businesslike, too fond of laying down the law, and too nationalistic.

Both capitals recognize the need for a strong relationship, and in Britain it is handled as much by the Cabinet Office as by the Foreign Office. But while meetings between British and French leaders are frequent and strong on content, those with Bonn are becoming infrequent

The sources point to the much stronger relationship which existed between Mrs Thatcher and the former Chancellor, Herr Helmut Schmidt. He had already been in power for 10 years when she was elected in 1979, and at first she resented his tendency to lecture her. But she came to respect and value his views.

"He and Mrs Thatcher used to hold full-day bilaterals twice a year, involving their foreign and defence ministers as well," one official said. "But she and Kohl have one full meeting a year at most.

Last year there were three brief encounters: two hours in Bonn in March, a bilateral meeting on the edge of a European conservatives' gathering in Berlin in September, and a breakfast in Copenhagen in December.

By contrast Mrs Thatcher has regular meetings with French leaders, and will hold another in London on January 29. She appears relaxed in the company of both President Mitterrand and M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister. Franco-British relations have benefited, with the British Government showing a surprising willingness to tolerate a string of French actions which otherwise might have aroused indignation.

The contrast becomes more striking when set against the Bonn-Paris axis. National celebrations will be held in both capitals a week today to mark the 25th anniversary of the Elysée Treaty. It was signed by Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer in 1963, in the hope of healing scars left from both world wars. It achieved exactly that, and has been pursued by Chancellor Kohl and President Mitterrand with renewed vigour since 1983. They are in the process of setting up a Franco-German military brigade under joint command.

West German sources say it is no secret that Chancellor Kohl feels more comfortable with President Mitterrand than with Mrs Thatcher.

Professor Dahrendorf, now warden of St Antony's College, Oxford, commented: "It is not just that Kohl's English is still very shaky, because he does not even have one word of French."

He tends to see the Prime Minister as too nationalistic with her liking for laying down the law

He said that President Mitterrand tended to invite Chancellor Kohl to join him on ceremonial occasions. "This allows them to be seen together, but does not leave a lot of time for private conversations."

Mrs Thatcher's dislike of ceremony precluded such an approach, he said.

Both leaders may have private reasons for thinking a closer relationship unnecessary. Professor Dahrendorf said: "There is probably a deeper reality that leading Germans feel that France is their most important partner in the Community." As for Mrs Thatcher: "At summit meetings Mrs Thatcher enlists Kohl's support successfully. He is the sort of person who when told to do something tends to do it."

Does the lack of mutual regard matter? Both Professor Dahrendorf and Mr Robertson answer "yes".

"I think it does matter, because the Germans are very important players on the European scene," Mr Robertson said. "British foreign policy is far too dependent on the whims of the Prime Minister."

Wave of pre-poll arrests in Haiti

From Alan Tomlinson
Port au Prince

Haitian soldiers are reported to have made large numbers of arrests throughout the country in what opposition leaders and local radio stations called "a wave of repression" ahead of Sunday's presidential elections.

Most of those detained were said in the radio reports to be young people, mainly Roman Catholic church workers, accused of inciting peasants to boycott the poll.

Under an electoral law decreed by the military junta headed by General Henri Namphy, urging voters to abstain is punishable by imprisonment.

Radio Métropole and Radio Haïti, both independent stations, said arrests were made over the past few days in the rebellious south-western town of Jérémie.

In his sermons in the town, the Rev Willie Romelus, a bishop who leads a Liberation Theology movement within Haiti's Roman Catholic Church, has defied the law by calling on voters to boycott the election.

The reports said that more arrests took place in the southern town of Jacmel, the northern Artibonite valley and in the central plateau near Hinche.

Mr Marc Bazin, one of four former presidential candidates who are boycotting the election, said people had been detained illegally throughout the country.

Eleven candidates are running for President, 48 are competing for 27 seats in the Senate, and 195 seek election to a 77-member Chamber of Deputies in a re-run of last November's abortive general election. Voting was brought to a stop when former members of the Tontons Macoute, the private security force of ousted President Jean-Claude Duvalier, massacred dozens of voters on polling day.

The Committee for Democratic Understanding, an *ad hoc* coalition of the four main opposition groups which have withdrawn from the race, has dismissed the new ballot as a "farce".

"The next President is already chosen, and a simple glance at the candidates for the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, mostly Macoutes, already gives the profile of the next Prime Minister," the committee declared in a communiqué.

Port au Prince — American immigration officials are considering whether to grant US citizenship to a baby born to a Haitian refugee on board a US Coast Guard vessel (Alan Tomlinson writes).

The mother and child have been granted a six-month stay in Florida pending a decision. Others refugees intercepted by US officials while fleeing Haiti at the same time were sent back.

González at bay as jobless total goes over three million

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's unemployment figures have gone above three million, one million more than when the Socialists came to power five years ago.

One of the party's principal election-winning promises then was to create 800,000 new jobs by economic policies designed to reverse the trend toward high unemployment which started in Spain in the mid-1970s.

The three-million mark has been passed at the worst possible moment for Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister. The figures were released by the State Employment Service only a week before the Socialists' 31st party conference in Madrid.

Señor Nicolás Redondo, head of the pro-Socialist General Workers Union, called on the Government to reverse its present economic policies which, he said, had clearly failed in their claim to be the only effective way to job creation.

Spain's unemployment rate of nearly 21 per cent was, he contended, the worst among the members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and double the European Economic Community's average.

"There now exists a profound sense of frustration among those segments of society which voted Socialist, and day by day this support goes on falling," said Señor Redondo.

One of the union leader's main complaints is that only 27 per cent of those officially listed as unemployed receive financial assistance from the Government.

This not only highlights a situation different from that among the unemployed in most neighbouring countries, but compares unfavourably with the one-third of jobless who received state assistance when the Socialists took office. Midway through its term Señor González's Government promised to raise the percentage of those receiving dole money to 50.

In Spain, however, it is recognized that the unemployed get by with assistance from members of their families who have a job, or by working in the "black economy", which the unions estimate now represents about a third of the country's real economic activity.

The decline in the amount of dole payments has been caused by the increase in the number of temporary jobs in recent years, giving rise to shorter periods of entitlement to state assistance for workers after their limited contracts end than for those who have enjoyed permanent jobs before becoming unemployed.

Labour economists say the Government's predicament is worsened by an estimated 250,000 school leavers joining the labour market every year. More than 1.3 million of the country's unemployed are under 25.

Alarmed by the three million figure, the Socialist Party has rushed out a plan promising to create half a million jobs or training schemes exclusively to benefit the young unemployed.

Meanwhile, the unions' basic complaint with Señor González's economic programme is that it asks the working classes to go on tightening their belts, instead of sharing more in an improving economic situation.

The unions point to moderation in wage claims over the past 10 years. They are seeking a 6 per cent overall wage increase this year in face of the Government's targeted 4 to 5 per cent.



Mr James Denby, an American whose aircraft was shot down over Nicaragua on December 6, was reunited with his wife Marie for just two minutes in a Managua courtroom where he had been charged with endangering the country's security.

Summit to review Arias peace plan

Concessions demand to Ortega

From Martha Honey, San José, Costa Rica

A crucial Central American summit opens here today to discuss implementation of the stalled regional peace plan.

In the days preceding the five-nation summit, President Arias of Costa Rica, the summit host and architect of the peace plan, announced new crackdowns on Contra activities in his country and sent a harsh warning to Nicaragua to comply fully with the plan.

This is the first summit since the Presidents of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica signed the historic accord last August, but the second deadline set — and not met — for its full implementation. The Presidents will review a report by the international verification and follow-up commission evaluating compliance with the plan, discuss areas requiring further action and, analysts and diplomats predict, set a new calendar.

A key Costa Rican negotiator said the summit could produce surprises, but despite problems and external pressures "the Presidents will not say the plan has failed". In the background looms the likelihood that early next month the United States Congress will vote substantial new aid for the Contras unless, as one Western diplomat put it, the Central American Presidents succeed "in injecting real life into the peace plan".

Progress towards implementation has now virtually halted, with the Nicaraguan, Salvadorean and Guatemalan governments and rebels failing to hold meaningful peace talks and reach permanent ceasefire agreements.

Pressure is greatest on Nicaragua to make substantial new concessions, including release of an estimated 5,000 to 8,000 more political prisoners, lifting of all press restrictions and the state of emergency in at least some parts of the country, and agreement to open direct talks with the Contras. President Arias sent President Ortega of Nicaragua a letter on Wednesday asking him "not to evade responsibilities" in implementing the plan.

President Ortega is unlikely to adopt significant new reforms unless the US halts aid to the Contras, but some further concessions are anticipated.

Honduras, which serves as the main rear base for the Contras, has complied least with the peace plan's provisions and is resisting a verification commission proposal for unannounced inspections of the border region.

And few here believe the peace plan can end the complex, long-term left-wing guerrilla wars in El Salvador and Guatemala.

The plan requires few reforms in democratic and politically stable Costa Rica, but at stake is President Arias's prestige as its chief author and the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

In an effort to comply fully with the accord, President Arias this week ordered a raid on Contra officials here and the expulsion of three top Contra officials living in Costa Rica unless they renounced the armed struggle. Señor Alfredo César said on Wednesday that he continued to support the Contra war and therefore would move from Costa Rica early next week. The two others, Señor Alfonso Robelo and Señor Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, have not yet announced their decisions.

Jail term delay for journalist

Madrid (Reuter) — A Spanish journalist, jailed for six years on charges of slandering King Juan Carlos, has won a provisional suspension of the sentence pending a ruling by the Constitutional Tribunal.

The Supreme Court had ruled last October that Juan José Fernández Pérez slandered the monarch in an article in the left-wing magazine, *Punto y Hora*, on Spain's organization of the 1982 football World Cup.

Bank shooting

Colombo — Four youths shot dead the manager of a state-owned bank and wounded a security official in Akurana, 80 miles from here, then ran off empty-handed after failing to find a bunch of keys

Blast kills two

Medellin (AFP) — A car bomb loaded with 66lb of dynamite exploded outside the home here of a reputed Colombian drug baron, Pablo Escobar, killing two people

Boycott call

Dhaka — Opposition leaders in Bangladesh have urged voters to boycott polling unless President Ershad and his Government resign before next month's election.

Gone missing

Paris (Reuter) — Two Romanian women's handball players disappeared from their Brasov team after a match in France and one has asked for political asylum, police said.

Good health

Moscow (AP) — The Kirov state farm near Doronichi in European Russia is offering its workers cash bonuses to give up smoking.

Killer father

Melbourne (Reuter) — A father killed his 11-year-old daughter with a shotgun before being wounded by police.

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China calls for new unification drive as Taiwan mourns

By Our Foreign Staff

China sent condolences to Taiwan yesterday over the death of President Chiang Ching-kuo, the son of the late Chinese Nationalist leader, Chiang Kai-shek, and urged a "new beginning" in efforts for reunification.

Peking's conciliatory gesture, in the form of a message from the Communist Party Central Committee, did not refer to Mr Chiang as a head of state, but as chairman of the Kuomintang, driven from the mainland in 1949.

The Chinese message also called on the new Taiwanese President, Mr Lee Teng-hui, to "make a new beginning to contribute to ending the separation of our country".

Mr Chiang, whose age had been variously given as 77 and 78, and who had been confined to a wheelchair since last September, died on Wednesday in Taipei of a heart attack.

The latest Chinese overtures on reunification came as grieving crowds of Taiwanese, many of them weeping, began gathering at a memorial room at the Veterans' General Hospital in Taipei before dawn to pay their respects before a large portrait of their leader.

His successor, Mr Lee Teng-hui, who turns 65 today, is the first native Taiwanese to head the Nationalist Government, and he will complete Mr Chiang's six-year term which ends in 1990.

Mr Lee and other senior government officials arrived at the memorial room in the early morning to pay their respects, bowing three times in traditional style to the portrait flanked by white and yellow chrysanthemums and burning incense.

Another 6,000 people filed through the Nationalist Party's headquarters in Taipei to sign a book of condolence.

An official committee has been named to prepare for a state funeral, but the Government says that a date had not yet been chosen.

The Government has proclaimed a 30-day period of mourning which began yesterday, and radio stations suspended normal programming for solemn and classical music or recorded speeches made by Mr Chiang, who had been President since 1978.

Unlike the late President, Mr Lee is seen as having a weak power base.

Neither Mr Lee nor any other politician has Mr Chiang's prestige among the people, and many observers believe a form of consultative government will evolve, slowing the pace of recent reforms.

Mr Chiang had lifted 38 years of martial law in July last year, and last October sanctioned visits by Taiwanese residents to the Chinese mainland for family reunions. There have been reports that his moves were resisted by influential conservatives in his Nationalist Party, who are opposed to any contacts with the Chinese Communists.

But Mr Lee's position was bolstered yesterday when he received pledges of loyalty from the Defence Minister, Mr Cheng Wei-yuan, and General Hau Pei-tsun, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff.

Messages of condolence also came from abroad, including one from President Reagan. In Washington, the US State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said the US would probably send a delegation to Mr Chiang's funeral, although the US severed diplomatic relations with Taiwan in 1979 in order to recognize the Peking Government.

Doctor's revelations about student's death embarrass Roh



A Seoul student burning an effigy of Mr Roh yesterday before a poster of Park Choog Chol.

Top officials to face torture cover-up claims

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

The ghost of a student who died in police custody a year ago has returned to haunt South Korea's ruling Democratic Justice Party in the run-up to crucial parliamentary elections.

A doctor who performed the post-mortem examination has created a political furore by alleging that at least six high-ranking police officers conspired to cover up his conclusion that the youth had died as a result of torture.

They include Mr Kang Min Chang, then director of the National Police Headquarters, who has applied to be a DJP candidate in the forthcoming elections. Four other senior government officials who resigned in connection with the affair last year are also prospective candidates for the ruling party.

Mr Roh Tae Woo, the President-elect, immediately ordered that the case be reopened, and investigators said yesterday that they were satisfied the doctor's account is genuine. As a result, Mr Kang and his former colleagues are to be summoned by state prosecutors.

The suspicious death of Park Chong Chol, aged 21, was an important factor in the popular uprising and democratic reforms of last June. The renewed controversy erupted into violence on the anniversary of his death yesterday, when thousands of students held a memorial service at Seoul National University. After hearing an emotional plea from his mother not "to close your eyes to the death of my son", they hurled stones and fire-bombs at riot police, who responded with volleys of tear gas. There were no reported arrests or injuries.

Meanwhile, DJP officials are considering whether to postpone until April elections scheduled for next month, to limit the political damage.

The sordid tale of water-torture, murder and corruption emerged from a diary written by Dr Hwang Chok Chun three weeks after he examined Park's body. Apparently overcome by remorse – and perhaps drawing courage from the impending end of authoritarian rule – Dr Hwang publicly revealed its contents on Tuesday.

According to his account, Park suffocated as a result of his neck being pressed against a hard object, possibly the rim of a bath. He knew that Park's head had been forced into a bath full of water. He duly informed Mr Ahn Sang Su, then a prosecutor, that the student had been throttled to death. However, he was then summoned into Mr Kang's office, where he was instructed to record that the death had been due to "shock" during interrogation.

A limited investigation last year resulted in one senior police officer and two of his subordinates being convicted of conspiracy to cover up the incident, but their sentences were suspended in September.

Mr Kang professed innocence yesterday, denying that he had ever met Dr Hwang. "I can't understand what it's all about. I did everything deemed necessary upon learning that Park's death resulted from torture." His disavowal has signally failed to impress the opposition parties, which are forming their own committees of inquiry to make the affair an emotive and acutely embarrassing election issue for the ruling party.

Pyongyang tied to jet crash

Woman agent says she planted bomb

From Our Own Correspondent, Seoul

A North Korean secret agent has admitted planting explosives on the South Korean aircraft which disappeared, with 115 people on board, over the Andaman Sea off Burma last November.

The woman, who is in her late twenties, made a full confession after being extradited from Bahrain to Seoul on December 15, an authoritative source told *The Times* yesterday.

However, South Korea has withheld the information, apparently to be absolutely certain of her testimony and to delay an inevitable controversy which might have led to a Communist boycott of the Seoul Olympics in September.

Now that the Soviet Union and the East European countries have formally accepted their invitations and China's participation is virtually assured, an official announcement on the sabotage is expected within days.

The source said the woman, who had been carrying a forged Japanese passport in the name of Mayumi Hachiya, broke down under questioning and admitted in fluent Korean that she was an agent of Pyongyang. Previously she had pretended ignorance of the Korean language, speaking only in Japanese and Chinese.

Late last night the state-run KBS television confirmed the report, and identified the woman as Kim Yun Hee. It said the Foreign Ministry would issue a statement today.

"Hachiya" and a male companion claiming to be her father left the Korean Air Boeing 707 on November 29 at Abu Dhabi, its last port of call before it vanished on a flight from Baghdad to Seoul.

Two days later they swallowed cyanide capsules after being detained by immigration officials in Bahrain while trying to board a flight to Rome. The man died almost immediately.

North Korea has rejected allegations of involvement. South Korean experts who examined 32 items of debris recovered off Burma have already confirmed that the aircraft was destroyed by a powerful mid-air explosion. No bodies have been found.

Diplomatic sources said Pyongyang was certain to deny the woman's account and might use the controversy as an excuse for finally abandoning attempts to co-host the Olympics.

● **BANGKOK:** Karen rebels in Burma claim to have found 17 bodies and the wreckage of the Korean Air jet which South Korea said was sabotaged by North Korean agents, a South Korean diplomat said yesterday (AFP reports).

The diplomat added that the Karen guerrillas were demanding $200,000 from the airline to guide officials to the crash site.

But an attaché at the South Korean Embassy said it was hard to believe bodies from the plane were found in the Karen-controlled area of Burma when traces of wreckage were discovered in the Andaman Sea.

Pakistan attacks submarine deal

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

Pakistan yesterday deplored the reported Soviet offer to India of three nuclear-powered submarines and expressed the fear that it would upset the military balance in the region.

The Pakistan Foreign Office said the deal would heighten "the threat to other countries in South Asia, and betrays an extraordinary disregard for the imperatives of peace in the region".

The statement also accused India of a policy of "headlong militarization" which "reveals a desire to project power and influence well beyond India's frontiers."

A spokesman claimed that nuclear-powered submarines would have no international safeguards and could be used to launch nuclear weapons.

On the scheduled January 20 visit by Señor Diego Cordóvez, the UN Secretary-General's personal envoy in negotiations between Pakistan and Afghanistan, the spokesman said he hoped the next round of talks would lead to a breakthrough. He welcomed the statement by Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, that Soviet troops might be withdrawn from Afghanistan this year.

The spokesman declined to comment on reports that Afghan resistance leaders would refuse to accept an accommodation with the regime in Kabul.

But he added that the Government in Islamabad fully supported Mr Cordóvez's efforts and was preparing for his visit and the next round of talks in Geneva, possibly next month.

He confirmed that Iran had been briefed about all discussions held by Pakistani leaders with US and other officials. There were more than one million Afghan refugees in Iran, and it was important and necessary to keep the Iranians informed, he said.

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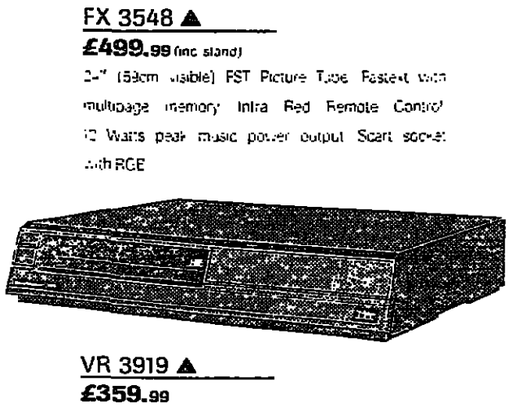
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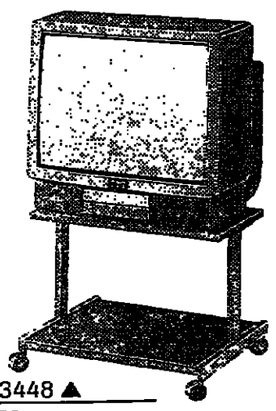
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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Sad to be gay

Being a tall woman who sometimes wears jeans and short hair, I was once attacked by a queer-basher who had mistaken me for a homosexual man. This happened en route to the Royal Festival Hall and crowds of concert goers passed by on the other side of the road. Rising anti-gay violence was the opening topic of *This Week* (ITV) which claimed an alarming, Aids-inspired increase in recent months.

The programme did not pause to explore the latent hostility in society which permits these attacks to take place. This was perhaps a wise decision, since the repression of homosexuality, like capital punishment, commands an embarrassing degree of popular support.

Violence on the streets made a sensational start to a report which then settled down to examine the implications of Clause 28 in the Local Government Bill now before the House of Lords, which aims to prohibit the "promotion" of homosexuality by local authorities.

David Wilshire, the Tory MP behind this clause, appeared as a sensible, moderate man who firmly denied that his ambitions extended to the repeal of the 1967 legislation which de-criminalized male homosexuality.

Wilshire and his supporters suffered a noticeable vocabulary failure when affirming their tolerance, however; there was much waffling and the use of euphemisms including the distasteful "these people". One suggested that homosexuals who needed "help" should turn to the NHS, an hilarious idea in the health service's present climate of catastrophe.

"I never believed that heterosexuality was so fragile," commented a voluntary worker at Manchester's Gay Centre, who saw the clause as sad evidence of a hiatus in human development. Its implications for the whole body of equal opportunity legislation were briefly mentioned but there was no time to explore them in depth.

Celia Brayfield

Opera's invisible man

Robert Lloyd, Britain's best known operatic bass, explains to Richard Morrison why he doesn't expect ever to be as popular or successful as his singing contemporaries who happen to be tenors and sopranos







Before taking the stage (top picture), Robert Lloyd (above right), undergoes hours of preparation (above left)

Operatic basses, according to Robert Lloyd, are pretty fed up with playing morbid kings, veteran sages and demented or dirty old men. "You waste your youth putting on funny walks and white beards," he says.

Nevertheless, another chunk of Lloyd's youth disappears at Covent Garden later this month, when he sings Gurnemanz (veteran sage department) in the Royal Opera's new *Parsifal*. This role, along with Boris Godunov, King Philip, Sarastro and Daland, has been Robert Lloyd's passport to an international career that has made him, in his mid-forties, Britain's best-known bass.

But the "have white beard, will travel" syndrome also lies behind a whimsical BBC-TV documentary about basses, *Six Foot Cinderella*, which Lloyd presents on Saturday. "After talking for a long time with the director, Donald Sturrock, we realized that the most interesting thing about the bass in opera is really his invisibility," says Lloyd.

Tenors get the best arias, the passionate clinches, the longest curtain-calls and the highest fees. The bass's contribution, Lloyd maintains, is usually erased from general memory.

"A classic case came to light when we were preparing this programme. We searched the TV archives for footage of Boris Christoff, and found just one extract: a United Nations concert in which he sang in various operatic ensembles. But even here there was only one shot of him — coming through the door at the start."

Six Foot Cinderella perhaps redresses the balance. After recalling "the four basses that haunt me, the ones that I hear in my head when I'm producing a sound" (Chaliapin, Pinza, Siepi and Paul Robeson) he sings all three roles in a specially filmed version of the final scene of *Don Giovanni*.

Christoff does not feature among Lloyd's models, despite the fact that comparisons between them are inevitable. That is particularly true at Covent Garden, where Christoff's Boris Godunov was so vividly remembered before Lloyd took up the challenge in 1983 (Lloyd returns to that role at Covent Garden this summer).

"Christoff has rather dogged me, yes. I didn't like his basic tone, but then I have generally been much more influenced by the lyrical Italian basses than by the Russians. Yet some things Christoff did were riveting: there was that trick of producing a tiny *mezza voce* which could be heard anywhere in the house.

"He had wonderful stage tricks too, also inimitable because they belong to a previous era. Mind you, it was an approach to opera which I regret the passing of. Nowadays it's called ham."

Lloyd has sung Gurnemanz many times, notably in the controversial Hans-Jurgen Syberberg film of *Parsifal* (to be broadcast by Channel Four in April). So how will he motivate himself for Bill Bryden's new Covent Garden *Parsifal*?

"I find the role stressful but never tedious. The opera is so infinitely interesting to me, if not to some colleagues. The best comment about it came from a friend who said that *Parsifal* is about whatever happens to be preoccupying you at that particular moment. That is why Jungian or Freudian interpretations can be made to 'fit', even if they exclude vast emotional areas."

Lloyd came to singing late: an Oxford history degree, three years in the Navy ("played a lot of cricket, acted in dozens of plays") and a spell as a police college lecturer preceded his first singing training at the London Opera Centre. "Re-adjusting was difficult; I was acutely conscious of a loss of social esteem. After all, I was used to 4,000 people saluting me."

Late start notwithstanding, he exploded on to the scene in the early 1970s and has never looked back. Now he faces a different sort of crisis: that of a bass who was sung nearly every worthwhile role.

"For several years I was extremely depressed by that. I've come to terms now — I realize that I must do them all again, with the benefit of maturity and the absence of the stress you are under when you are fighting your way up the ladder."

Certainly Lloyd's profile in 1988 could not be higher. He is currently filming a BBC TV production of Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*. He sings in a new *Flying Dutchman* at La Scala, and makes his début at the New York Met, in *The Barber of Seville*.

"That's something one does for the prestige, not because the end result is likely to be particularly satisfying. A bass is unlikely to have a big career in America. If one is a soprano or tenor, on the other hand, it is extremely important to *conquer* the Met."

What about concert work? "I know that the day will come when people stop asking me to do Boris and King Philip; there'll be time for recitals then."

BIRTWISTLE FESTIVAL

After the end

BBCSO/Eötvös
Barbican Hall

The "Endless Parade" of Birtwistle at the Barbican has in fact come to an end, though no doubt the slashing wind-percussion chords and the long labouring melodies, the very different kinds of eroticism in Sarah Leonard's pristine singing and Marie Angel's ululations, the fanfares and the drumbeats will go on processing for a long time somewhere behind my left ear.

For Birtwistle's music is hard to forget: the fact has something to do with its theatrical vividness, but no less important is its difference from anything else.

Where *The Triumph of Time* had a clear personality, *Earth Dances* is a knot of potentialities, and it will take more than three performances before the multiple strands of melody and rusting clockwork are properly projected and registered, especially when so much of the score requires an upside-down kind of listening, hearing through relatively static top levels to a turbulently evolving bass.

This time the momentum seemed to flag too often. There was some fuzziness, too, among the much leaner textures of *Still Movement* for 13 strings, though it was good to hear this rare and curious act of balancing, as precarious as a line drawing by Klee.

It was also good to hear again the piece for trumpet, strings and vibraphone that gave this festival its title. Some things did not sound quite as well as at last year's Zurich première (notably the very low trumpet notes), but Peter Eötvös found the unusual elegance and sensuousness in the string writing, and Håkan Hardenberger maintained a gleaming steely purpose through the clarion calls and echo effects of the solo part. It is tantalizing to think where the endless parade may lead next.

Paul Griffiths

OPERA

Haydn revival sets record straight

L'Infedeltà delusa
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Cynics may feel that Haydn's operas have not become established in the staple repertoire because, being so rooted in 18th-century manners and mores, they allow little scope for modern producers to be "relevant". One certainly recalls a Haydn production in London a few years ago, at which a large lorry roared in during the finale, with mixed feelings.

This concert performance of the 1773 farce *L'Infedeltà delusa*, graced with much pleasurable original-instrument playing from the Age of Enlightenment under Sigiswald Kuijken's direction, set the record straight. Haydn may lack sheer melodic memorability (compared, inevitably, with Mozart) but, just as in the symphonies, the compensation lies in the deftness of his musical wit.

Twists in the plot (and this one was a real corkscrew) were mirrored time and again by sly winks in the orchestration or pungent shifts of tonality. That gave depth to the stock *buffa* characters: a marriage-broking father hoodwinked, a heroine assuming four disguises in a single act, and other peasants too tedious to mention.

One could imagine that in a less genteel interpretation some of the arias might have bristled into real *sturm und drang* territory. But Kuijken was at least a sympathetic accompanist.

Nancy Argenta, as the lady with the penchant for transvestism, began coolly but characterized her Act II manifestations gamely. The Belgian soprano Lena Lootens also performed with spirit, singing the opera's only brief snatch of coloratura excellently; and Stephen Varcoe put much facial vigour into the role of Nanni, a lovesick buffoon who seems well-named.

But the two tenors, Christoph Prégardien and Markus Schäfer, both had problems with the (perhaps unusual) tessitura requirements. Radio 3 broadcasts this performance on Saturday night.

Richard Morrison

Coward's gladiators

THEATRE

Easy Virtue
King's Head

Little has been heard of this piece since its original success in the mid 1920s, and its revival comes as a fascinating reminder of the other Noel Coward: not the theatrical dandy enthroned in an exclusive club of beautiful people, but the malcontent suburbanite praying for the lovely bombs to drop on Teddington.

The ostensible theme of *Easy Virtue* is the "woman with a past"; the *demi-mondaine* of the Nineties changed to her less flamboyant post-war descendant.

In fact, we get to know very little about Larita's past, beyond the fact that she has ditched a husband and taken a few lovers. The fatal newspaper detailing her past iniquities may throw her in-laws into paroxysms of moral outrage, but we never find out what those iniquities are.

Given the play's aims there is no need for us to know. Coward is not showing a fallen woman paying her debt to the past; he is smuggling a liberated character into a fortress of bigoted moral rectitude.

You can think of several plausible reasons why the ageing Larita should have concluded a misalliance with the fresh-faced young John; but Coward simply puts it down to love and gets on with his real job of demolishing the family.

Mother is a virtuoso moral blackmailer, expert at putting everyone where they belong — in the wrong. She has clearly ruined her two daughters; but now they are old enough to qualify for punishment too.



Family at war: John Michie, Jane How (centre) and Marion Whittaker sharing a sofa

Long defeated by his womenfolk, the dejected father devotes his declining years to perfecting his talent for withering ironies, fully aware that they will fall on deaf ears. Ronnie Stevens's gently devastating portrait of this Surrey-bound Diogenes is one of the great pleasures of Tim Luscombe's production.

The action contains no surprises. The new bride arrives; genteel hostilities set in, and by act two the marriage has run into terminal boredom. Finally the last strands of civility snap, and Larita gets the long-awaited speech in which she tears these overbearing nonentities to pieces.

Given the sound rule that a playwright's first duty is to respect his characters, the result ought to be a dreadful example of revenge writing. In fact it is a most entertaining gladiatorial spectacle, thanks partly to Coward's ear for the clichés of domestic conflict, and partly because he has his lifeline of comic detachment.

In that department he gets crucial support from Luscombe's company. However hateful, Avril Angers's acid courtesies (as the mother) and the rhinoceros-hide insensitivity of Miranda Kingsley and Lois Harvey are never offered at face value. Jane How's Larita presents the statutory contrast of charm and style.

Irving Wardle

Triple choice

CONCERT

PLG/Young Artists
Purcell Room

As usual, the Park Lane Group gave us three sets of expert young performers and several works new or neglected to savour in Wednesday night's proceedings.

Not quite as usual was the degree of imbalance in the later concert which favoured the clarinettist Robert Hicks. But even though he played six pieces out of nine, most of them not insubstantial, the artist who shared his concert, the soprano Jane Webster, ultimately made the greater impression.

She is already a highly promising singer, and would be more, were it not for a voice which, though already rich to a rare degree, still betrays its youth through a marginal lack of strength in the lower register, and a fractionally less than perfect control at the quietest dynamic levels.

But whether in Robin Holloway's cycle of love-poems by Graves, *Wherever we may be*, in Anthony Payne's spiritual Lagerkvist settings, *Evening Land*, or in Judith Weir's entertainly idiosyncratic, unaccompanied "three-act opera", *King Harald's Saga*, she was an ardent champion of the music.

The best of Hicks's contributions was his quite remarkable interpretation, in magnificent costume, of Stockhausen's *Der kleine Harlekin*.

Some things seemed eminently dispensable, Jolivet's ponderous *Ascèse* for clarinets alone, for instance.

Earlier, the Berlin Oboe Quartet gave a short programme of works by Britten, Colin Matthews and Richard Rodney Bennett, which was lavishly garnished by Nigel Shore's wonderfully broad oboe sound and by string playing of the very highest order. And that is no hyperbole.

Stephen Pettitt

Lean outlook

The slump in the value of the dollar could mean that the Royal Shakespeare Company — and London theatre in general — could face another "very difficult" summer without American tourists, according to artistic director Terry Hands.

"If the dollar continues its present slide, everyone in the theatre will be looking towards a very difficult summer. Twenty-four per cent of our audience is foreign, including Americans who alone account for 17½ per cent. If you think in terms of the £10 million we generate at the box office, it's a big sum and will affect us," he said.

He added that additional advertising was underway in Germany and Japan to help counteract the problem.

The RSC is still recovering from the last dramatic drop in American visitors — in 1986 following the Libyan bombing — which, coupled with several unpopular productions at the Barbican Theatre, led to a deficit of £1.19 million.

But in future, because of internal reorganisation, it will be possible to drop any failures more quickly. "One of the things we noted was a lack of agility. You have to be able to respond to market trends," said Hands.

Reorganization means that at Stratford-upon-Avon a radical change splits the company into two with some 40 actors in each "stream", moving between all three theatres there and possibly other venues if required. Another change makes Adrian Noble and Bill Alexander artistic directors of the Stratford and London seasons respectively.

At both venues this year, despite the recently announced £1.1 million sponsorship over three years from Royal Insurance, there will be fewer new productions — a drop from 25 last year to 18. There will be a total of 37 productions under the RSC roofs — excluding others currently running in the commercial sector. Following the company's recent withdrawal from London's Mermaid Theatre, productions from the last Stratford season will be streamlined into the Barbican's two theatres.

The season at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford opens in April with *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed by Di Trevis — the first woman director at that theatre since the late Buzz Goodbody 15 years ago.

The falling value of the dollar is forcing the RSC to trim its sails



Terry Hands of the RSC

Another cautionary move: the two new productions at the Barbican will be major classical works, with maximum box office appeal: "We can't afford any area of indulgence."

Later in the year comes "a major theatrical event" — the mini-cycle of Henry VI plays together with *Richard III*. The Swan Theatre will house its first modern play — *Restoration* by Edward Bond; The Other Place will open its season with the première of Robert Holman's *Across Oka*.

Lynda Murdin

Surface zest

Hours by the Window
Man in the Moon

The secretary who adores her boss — or indeed his boss — is not the fantasy of pulp fiction. I know of several, though none, alas, from personal enjoyment. Sometimes they obtain their heart's desire and marry the man they have slaved for, gratefully slaving on till death them do part.

Or, in the case of Arthur Koestler and his secretary/wife of 30 years, till death them does not part. Moments after Koestler in 1983 extinguished the life in his cancer-racked body, Cynthia followed him; and did so without sharing his placid curiosity to learn what might lie ahead but because "life without Arthur" would be a life evacuated of meaning.

Margaret Douglas's hour-long play — a Fringe First winner at Edinburgh — sets out to locate those episodes in Cynthia's past that could account for the famous double suicide. One interesting suggestion is that the suicides were not a pact. Koestler sees no reason why she should have to die — nor their pet dog either — but leaves the decision to her. It is a freedom she denied their aborted children as well as the dog.

Old Cynthia and her young self move between present and past, tending the old Arthur, immobile in his chair, or gazing raptly at the eager, younger one over the wine glasses. Onto Old Cynthia (Kate Glover) falls the irksome responsibility for the narrative line: "Then came the Congress for Cultural Freedom in Berlin at the height of the Cold War."

Young Cynthia (Yvonne Worth) is also prominent in the reminder game but Peter Miles and Geoffrey Harris have the better fortune of being able to concentrate on just acting Arthur, old and young. They are persuasively charming, a touch sardonic and convey the absolute essential for such a man, the zest of intelligence.

Belinda Adye plays the effervescent first Mrs Koestler and the timing of some of the exits (director Penny Stokes) is unexpected and effective. The story is inherently dramatic but the author's portrait of Cynthia is scarcely more complex than that of a human spaniel: stupefyingly submissive and a demonstration that one man's helpmeet is another man's poison.

Jeremy Kingston

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Waltzing away with the glory

AUSTRALIA 1788-1988

Britain may have colonized Australia, but in the last few years it's the old country that's come under the domination of the new breed of Aussie artist and entrepreneur. Bryan Appleyard reports on the revenge of the swagman . . .

In 1972 Barry Mackenzie drank beer and vomited. *The Adventures of Barry Mackenzie* was the movie that documented the culture clash between the Poms and the Aussies. Australia had arrived but it was a joke. Three years later Peter Weir's film *Picnic at Hanging Rock* appeared. Australia was no longer a joke; she made better movies than Britain. We may have colonized the place 200 years ago, but now the Empire was striking back.

Australia had found a style after years of playing second fiddle to Europe. Australian intellectuals used to call it the "cultural cringe". The theory goes like this: Australians are basically Europeans who, 200 years ago, were severed from the civilization and art of Europe. Ambitious and energetic, they developed an inferiority complex. They felt the burden of the European heritage but, against Renaissance Italy, literary England and musical Germany, all they had to offer was three million square miles of outback. They felt like a nation of provincial hicks — mention the word "culture" and they cringed.

The result was that any Aussie with a sensitive streak wanted to leave either permanently or long enough to "do" Europe thoroughly. Even today the children of middle-class families are expected to turn up on the doorsteps of distant friends and relatives in England, using them as a base to explore London, Paris or Rome. And, easily overawed, they still tend to grin weakly and apologetically when asked about the poetry, paintings or music of Australia.

But Europe was transformed by the war and, as Australia became richer and more sophisticated, her confidence grew. "Having missed out on the Renaissance in the 15th century," says Australian art critic Robert Hughes, "we decided to reconstruct one in Australia."

There were false starts. Hughes has written of two Australian artists who decided they were influenced by Tintoretto. Unfortunately they had never seen a

Germaine Greer came here and with particular Australian frankness took apart our manhood

Tintoretto except in poor colour plates from *Life* magazine. These were far yellower than the real thing. The Aussies proceeded to produce paintings with a pervasive yellow tinge.

But gradually the word "Australian" came to evoke more than just a gigantic suburb. Patrick White, the novelist, won the Nobel Prize in 1973. He was born here but his family emigrated when he was six months old. He came back to England for his education but the novels that won the prize were set in Australia.

In the Sixties and the Seventies it became clear that apeing European culture was no longer necessary. Germaine Greer came here and, in 1970, with particularly Australian frankness and ruthlessness took apart our manhood in *The Female Eunuch*, the basic feminist text book. Clive Vivian Leopold James fell towards England, laughed at our television and proceeded to become a high-brow Terry Wogan. Suddenly Australia actually had an identity.



Michael Bennett

Britain at their feet: actors like Mel Gibson (top left), artists like Sir Sidney Nolan (top right) and entrepreneurs like John Elliott have conquered the world. But they still have to leave home to make it big

"When I first came over here in 1951," says Australian poet and critic Peter Porter, "people had hardly heard of the place. But then they got to know us by stereotypes. These weren't actually true but they made us familiar."

The stereotype was tougher, harder drinking and cruder than his Pom counterpart; Barry Mackenzie made him a popular joke. He was awful but he was popular — cold beer and throwing up became admirable. Most terrifyingly of all, the movie introduced Dame Edna Everage to the world, an example of Australian womanhood who could quite clearly eat European civilization for breakfast. There was some truth in all this. Australians like being gloriously vulgar. One advertising campaign over there designed to persuade people to eat more meat came up with the deathless slogan: "Eat more beef, you bastards".

But the lout image was only half the story. In the case of Greer, James and Porter, the louts were also intimidatingly intelligent — they could out-culture the Poms.

Meanwhile the image of Australia itself was rapidly changing. It had always been known for sport — cricket, swimming and tennis — but that just seemed to fit in with the national image of bronzed, fit philistines. The big sign of change was the film industry. The Labour Prime Minister Gough Whitlam poured money into home-grown movies in the belief that it was one area in which his country could win cultural credibility.

"You might be Michelangelo," he is reported to have said to one director, "but I'm the bloody Pope."

Peter Weir, Gillian Armstrong, Bruce Beresford and Fred Schepisi emerged as world class movie makers — Schepisi's *Roxanne* is currently a big hit on both sides of the Atlantic, and Weir has been responsible for *The Year of Living Dangerously* and *Witness*. They even had a big movie star — Mel Gibson — to rival the American idols and who, in box office terms, was way ahead of anything produced in recent years by the Poms.

To drive home the point that Australia, in cultural terms, was to be taken seriously, the Seventies also saw the completion of the Sydney Opera House. It was designed by a Dane and, for a long time, it was seen as another Australian joke. But it is now generally accepted as among the half dozen finest postwar build-

They came from an entirely different background which made the City look unadventurous

ings anywhere in the world. A new generation of Australian architects, like Glen Murcett, are now among the most highly regarded in Europe. Significantly, they are working to produce a distinctively Australian style. Murcett himself specializes in houses made from corrugated steel. One example is all silver, built on stilts, and stands in a forest which has not been disturbed in any way by the building. It looks like a train which has just arrived from nowhere — certainly not from Europe.

Porter says that, with this new confidence, came a backlash against British culture: "This was the reverse of the cultural cringe. Among the intellectuals and the Australians of non-British stock — there are a lot of central Europeans — there was a strong feeling against British culture."

In the Seventies Britain was declining economically while Australia was booming. This encouraged the growing feeling that there was something more robust, tougher and more vivid about its way of life. Britain began to look drained, grey and incompetent. Australians began to feel they could do things better.

This was the inspiration for the massive business invasion that was then launched. A succession of tycoons emerged to take over large parts of the British economy — Rupert Murdoch, Robert Holmes à Court, Alan Bond, Larry Adler and John Elliott. They came from an entirely different business background which made the City of London look feeble and unadventurous. Takeovers were their speciality.

"We're used to looking carefully at things like industrial logic before deciding whether one company should buy another," says one City analyst. "These guys would just see something they liked and buy it."

The tactic that most startled London was the "leveraged bid". In effect this means borrowing as much money as you need. It meant that John Elliott's Elders IXL could happily launch a £1.8 billion bid for Allied Lyons, a company four times its size. He failed with Allied but instead took Courage, only three times the size of Elders.

The Australian businessmen homed in on the industries they knew best: brewing, newspapers and communications, transport and, latterly, financial services. They are still active and unpredictable and most of them have now moved on to America. Luckily the Americans now know roughly what to expect thanks to *Crocodile Dundee*.

Over 20 years the image of Australia both to itself and to the world has been transformed. Australians still drink cold beer but they can now do other things as well, notably selling cold beer to the rest of the world. The one thing that hasn't changed, however, is that they still need to go abroad to make it really big. Back home there are only 15 million Australians and an awful lot of desert. This means they will always be outsiders, elbowing their way in, and that is just enough to let the Poms still feel perhaps a bit superior.

"I've been here since 1951," says Porter, "and even now when any conversation gets a little acerbic, Englishmen still tell me I don't *really* understand because I'm *not really one of them*."

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FINDINGS

A weekly series on research

CLASSICS

Still surviving in *mountainous* regions of the Balkans (Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria) are the Vlachs, who speak a language derived from Latin. For example, *mesa, poarta, herba*, the Vlach word for "table", "door", and "grass", are from the Latin *mensa, porta, herba*. The origin of the Vlachs is a puzzle. The Romanian view is that they are descended, like the Romanians themselves, from Latin speakers in the Danube basin, while the Greeks favour the more romantic theory that they are descendants of Roman frontier guards or even of legionaries who fought at Pharsalus, Philippi and Actium during the civil wars. The problem is fully discussed in a new book on the Vlachs, the first in English for over 70 years, by Dr Tom Winnifrith of Warwick University *(The Vlachs*, Duckworth, £18).

Martin F. Smith

GEOLOGY

The discovery by geophysicists at Newcastle University that lunar rocks contain traces of magnetism have altered ideas about the Moon's internal structure. Furthermore none of the three fields identified corresponds with its axis of spin. In order to have a magnetic field, the moon must have had a molten core. Lunar satellites impacting with it may have led to the moon being reorientated to a new spin axis. If so, this appears to have happened at least three times between 4.2 and 3.85 billion years ago, and explains why none of the fields are aligned with the axis of rotation. Since then the core solidified and the Moon became geologically extinct.

Simon Elsy

BIOLOGY

How easy is it to create a flower and grass-rich pasture from an arable field that has been growing wheat for more than 20 years? The question is particularly timely with *government measures taking* shape to cut agricultural overproduction. Biologists at Imperial College and the University of Oxford have been studying a 10 hectare former cereal field overlying Jurassic limestone in Oxfordshire, and last cultivated in 1981, to find out. Five years on, 43 of the 75 grassland flowering plants which occur on permanent limestone grasslands nearby had appeared, including one national rarity, Slender Bedstraw. Experiments with different sheep grazing regimes did not affect the changes of species arriving but their establishment was better in grazed areas. A healthy variety of typical limestone grassland insects also made their debut. These findings give encouragement for the long term prospects of establishing rich limestone grassland, particularly on England's downs where traditional sheep pasture, long replaced by expanses of cereals, may once again be restored.

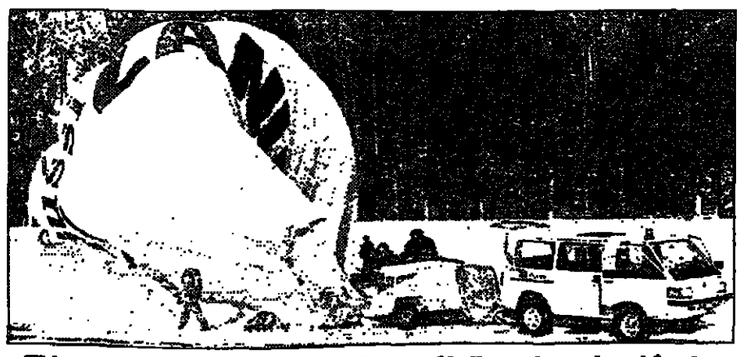
Malcolm Smith

PHYSICS

For years scientists have been warning us that higher temperatures, large-scale floods and other natural disasters will be the inevitable results of the greenhouse effect, which prevents significant amounts of solar radiation escaping the earth's atmosphere. The blame for this has been put *primarily on industrial pollutants*. Californian scientists now say that cows are also guilty. They point out that one of the contributors to the greenhouse effect is methane gas. A cow produces about 250 grams of it a day and releases *it into the atmosphere*. Calculations show that there are enough bovine methane gas manufacturers to raise the world's temperature by a significant 5 degrees by the year 2050.

Andrew Wiseman

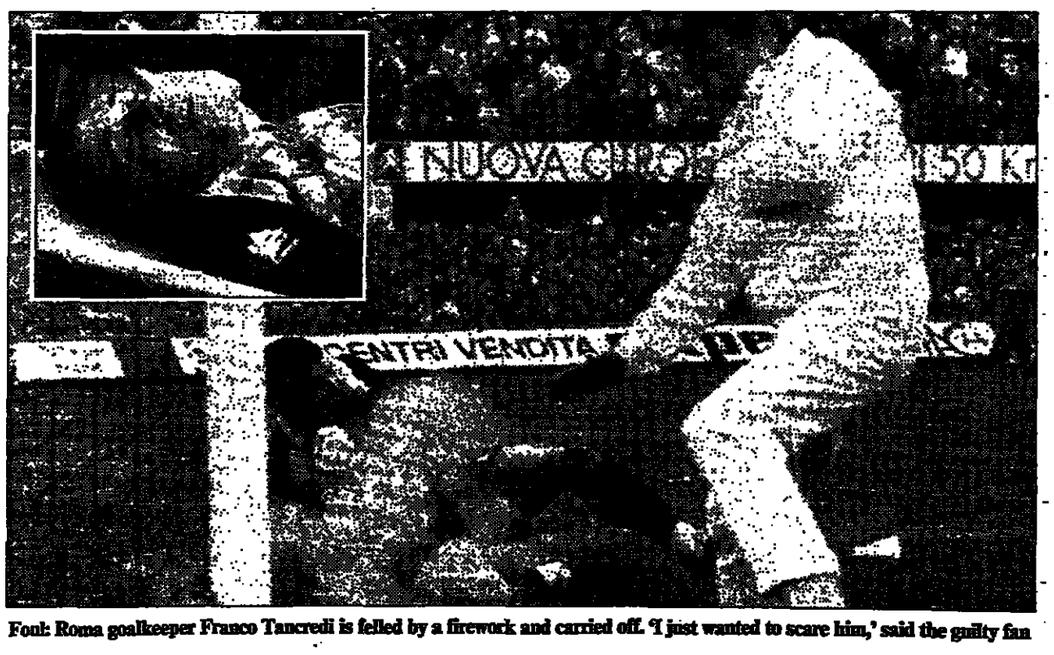
THE TIMES
SATURDAY
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This week, an intrepid multi-national band of balloonatics gathered for the 10th annual Alpine Trophy, taking on one of the most difficult challenges that sport has to offer. Brian James hitched a lift, aloft, and survived to tell a tale of romance and danger in the high Alps

Italy under the bovver boot

As in Britain, gangs now rule the terraces of many Italian football clubs — but are they really part of a fascist conspiracy?



Foul: Roma goalkeeper Franco Tancredi is felled by a firework and carried off. 'I just wanted to scare him,' said the guilty fan

It has been quite a football season in Italy. There was a knifing in Milan, spectators beaten up in Empoli, the mugging of officials in Lombardy, and, well, a few goals too. Even before the 1985 Heysel Stadium disaster, in which 38 Juventus fans were killed, football violence was regarded as the British disease.

The past few weeks have changed this view. Now there is talk of a European malaise, involving Italy and vaguely aligned with a resurgence of neo-fascist sentiment among the regiments of the young unemployed, the "no future" generation.

The turning point came during the Milan-AS Roma match last month. Franco Tancredi, the Roma goalkeeper, was jumping up and down to keep warm when two large fireworks hit him in the face. He fell and was carried off the field unconscious to a chorus of "Let him die" from the Milan fans. The chairman of Milan, Signor Giancarlo Foscale (cousin of the owner, the private television tycoon Signor Silvio Berlusconi) studied a television news video of the incident, identified the Milan fan and told the police.

Luigi Sacchi, a bulging-eyed, rather simple-minded 23-year-old, was arrested. He is typical of the breed. He comes from a village, Morsella, in the Milan area; the flat, grey boggy part of the Po Valley where the air smells of pig breeding and the weed-killers used to douse the rice fields. In Sacchi's village there is a primary school, a church, a bar with neon lights and a *billiard* room; everybody, including Sacchi, lives for the weekly football match. "I didn't want to hurt Tancredi," he says, "I just wanted to scare him. All my mates were throwing fireworks so I did the same and then I saw Tancredi *falling and I thought*, 'Oh God, he's dead. . .' Actually, Tancredi is fine, despite jangled nerve-endings.

Sacchi's only friends were in the stadium, in the extremist fringe groups that now dominate football violence in Italy; Milan's are called the Tigre Commandos, or Panter. The groups, as in Britain, operate on the margins, or in parallel with, the traditional fan clubs. Each big Italian team has its tribe of hooligans: Atlanta has the "Wild Chaos" group; Naples has "The Southern Boys" and the "Blue Nobility"; Inter-Milan has "The Skins" and "The Boys".

These groups function according to quite separate rules and have their own codes — in some cases, blood initiation — worthy of study by Margaret Mead. Some groups form "iron alliances", otherwise known as twinning. This is an agreement to abstain from fighting within the stadium, except against third parties.

The norm, though, is bitter hostility, such as that between the Rome and Milan tribes. Sacchi says that on entering Milan's San Siro stadium for the Roma match, the Commandos handed their knives to their girlfriends or strapped them to their legs to avoid police searches.

A 400-page university research report handed recently to the Belgian Interior Ministry, establishes links between British, West German and *Belgian hooligans and politically* right-wing groups such as Britain's National Front. Signor Fulvio Bianchi, chief reporter at the *Corriere dello Sport*, says that "in the north of Italy there are definite connections with the extreme right wing. Bergamo, Brescia, Milan and Verona fans all flaunt fascist and Nazi symbols. But I have seen something similar at Chelsea."

The head of the Italian security service in Milan, Signor Stefano Rea, says: "It would be a dangerous mistake to discover a relationship between football violence and fascist symbolism. This new phenomenon must not be interpeted as a political expression. These drop-outs are using violence to enact a reality from which they feel excluded."

The Italian Interior Minister, Signor Amintore Fanfani and the police chief, Signor Vincenzo Parisi, met last month and decided that all major matches should now involve a heavy show of police force, including the use of helicopters and video cameras. The police presence and the violence has already scared off a large number of conventional fans; some stadia report a 40 per cent drop in receipts.

The real problem though is not whether to build bunkers and put up barbed wire as in South America, but how to strip the violent camp followers of their privileges.

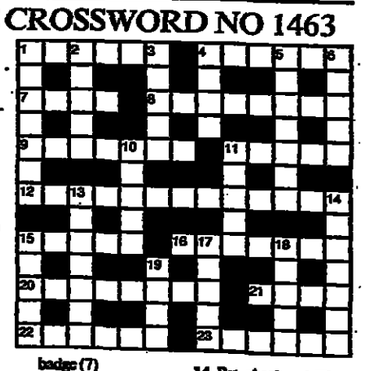
Signor Nedo Canetti, the Communist Party spokesman for sport, thinks that the clubs have only themselves to blame. "We are more concerned about the use of extremists by football clubs than about violence in the stands. These *agents provocateurs* have been encouraged by the clubs who now find no way of stopping them."

What he means is that football magnates, such as Signor Berlusconi, have encouraged some fans to protect the team from journalists and others. In return, these unofficial guardians received free tickets.

Soccer violence as the British disease? The Italians are beginning to doubt it. In all the Italian reports that were commissioned after the Heysel disaster, perhaps the most telling statistic was that 84 per cent of fans did not play any sport. Few of the young warriors who enter Italian stadia seem to have any connection with football as sport.

Roger Boyes

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1463



ACROSS
1 Muslim scholar (6)
4 Scarcity (6)
7 Without feeling (4)
8 Disney cartoon classic (8)
9 Lane reflector (7)
11 Simple song (5)
12 Early hairdresser, doctor (6,7)
15 Dull (5)
16 Radical reorganisation (5-2)
20 China's largest city (8)
21 Adjoin (4)
22 Shetland pony (6)
23 Cold, treeless zone (6)

DOWN
1 Saloon taxi (7)
2 Restrict (5)
3 Big and strong (5)
4 Frank Herbert Arrakis series (4)
5 Gymkhana prize badge (7)
6 Intoxicating (5)
10 School leave of absence (5)
11 Guinea corn (5)
13 Stuffed meat roll (7)
14 Petrol solvent (7)
15 Foundation (5)
17 Lifting device (5)
18 Set in (5)
19 Sailor's hail (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1462

ACROSS: 1 Lament 4 Amstel 9 Flaccid 10 Carob 11 Stud 12 Abscond 14 Premeditate 18 Refusal 19 Lieu 22 Guest 24 Arietta 25 Estate 26 Hearty

DOWN: 1 Left 2 Meant 3 Nicodemus 5 Mac 6 Turnout 7 Libido 8 Edward Elgar 11 SDP 13 Satellite 15 Reflect 16 Emu 17 Brogue 20 Easter 21 Wary 23 Tot

هكذا من الأصل

First is foremost

AUSTRALIA 1788-1988

Tracing your roots has become chic in the country celebrating its history. Barbara Toner discovers why for some family trees are casting dark shadows



No Aboriginal stereotype: Sally Morgan, who was told that it was more socially acceptable to be Indian

Australia, in the words of its national anthem, abounds in nature's gifts. It is beautiful, rich and free. Yet as its 200th birthday inspires a fascination for its past, newly discovered family trees cast uneasy shadows.

Most Australians claim British or Irish ancestry, but a large proportion of those who have arrived since the last war are European, Maltese or Lebanese; and the newest arrivals are a relatively small number of Asian refugees. There is a history of brutality among settlers, towards those who were here first and those who have wanted to come since, which is disquieting in a lucky country.

There are many Aborigines, for instance, who believe the day the First Fleet arrived was the day their luck ran out. They numbered 300,000 then. Now, in a population of 15.5 million, they number 250,000. "We are still neither one thing nor the other," Sally Morgan says. She is a 35-year-old Aboriginal writer and painter, and in her book *My Place* she gives a moving account of the lives of her family.

"There's been a repression of our history," she says. "Children are taught that Australia began 200 years ago, as if in thousands of years we achieved nothing." Her personal history was repressed by her mother and grandmother who told her that she was Indian for the first 15 years of her life. To be Indian was more socially acceptable.

"It's a terrible thing to be Aboriginal," her sister informed her. "You can be Indian, Dutch, Italian; anything, but not Aboriginal."

It was years before she could persuade her mother and her grandmother to tell her the truth, so painful did they find the memories of their past and so fearful were they of the stigma of being black. Her grandmother, Daisy, agreed to tell her story only weeks before her death.

She was born on a large property in the north of Western Australia in 1900 and given the Aboriginal name of Talahue and the English name of Daisy. Her mother was a beautiful Aboriginal called Annie Padewani and her father was a white man, almost certainly the prosperous station owner, Howden Drake-Brockman. It was Government policy that half-caste children should be taken from their black mothers to be educated.

Daisy herself was taken from home when she was 14, to go with Drake-the Brockmans to live in Perth. She became pregnant twice. Her first child was taken from her at birth. The second, Sally's mother Gladdie, she was allowed to keep for three years.

"An Aboriginal is supposed to be very black, uneducated and passive," says Morgan. "We're better off in terms of the law now, but we're not any better understood."

Olive Forester is as proud of her ancestry as Morgan is of hers. A 58-year-old grandmother, she grew up in Sydney's outer suburbs. The daughter of a carpenter and joiner, she is part of a growing elite which can trace its line back to the First Fleet.

Forester's great, great, great grandmother was Ann Forbes, a 16-year-old from Southwark who was transported for stealing a bolt of cloth worth 20 shillings. "She had 14 children by three men and died here in 1851, leaving 110 great grandchildren. She was the last convict from the First Fleet to die," Forester says with pleasure.

"I think now it must have been traumatic for the Aborigines. We just came and took over and if they didn't like it, we shot them. But England had to have somewhere to expand, to send their people to colonize. I don't feel guilty, but I feel sorry it had to be the way it was."

It is Forester's opinion that the life of the early settlers shaped the Australian character. "You think about those who were transported. They came out here to nothing. They didn't know what they were coming to and they came unprepared. They had to learn to survive and they learnt to be independent. I find I have to be careful about migrants now myself. The first migrants were Maltese and Italian and I used to feel funny about that, but they've assimilated very well. I look at the way I feel about the Vietnamese who are coming now and I know I will feel all right about them in 10 years' time."

Lan Nguyen was raised in Saigon. She studied English at university and taught until 1975, when life in the capital became impossible for her and her husband, who was an Air Force officer.

In 1982, with their two young children and 125 others, they boarded one of the notorious fishing boats headed for Indonesia. After a nightmare lasting seven days and nights, during which they went without food and water and were repeatedly attacked by pirates, they reached Malaysia.

On being offered a choice of countries, Lan chose Australia. They arrived in Sydney with nothing. Last month they paid a deposit and moved into their own house with their three children now aged 15, 12 and four. The sacrifices have been enormous.

"We have to work very hard. My husband works seven days a week as a mechanic. When we arrived he could only find a job as a yard sweeper. He used to cry but he would say, 'I think of you and the children and I tell myself you are the important ones'." Lan could only find voluntary work until a friend advised her to apply for a job in the Department of Youth and Community Services.

Three years ago, she was given a job as a field assistant and is now a district officer for refugee children. "I understand them; I know what they have been through. I have great sympathy for the Vietnamese women. Only 30 per cent are well educated. Most of them can't even read or write in their own language. They can't speak English and they can't leave the house. They don't have money.

"But we are in a free country. Our children are being educated in a free country. That is what is important."

Australians aren't as friendly as she had hoped. "I am spoken to very rudely, by colleagues as well as the public. They say to me, 'How come you boat people can get a job when white Australians are unemployed?'

"Sometimes I cry and I hate the Communists even more for making this happen to me. I ask myself how come they call Australia a multi-ethnic country? How come they don't accept any of my culture? But this is my business. We must be grateful. We are free."

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Anti-femme fatale



BARBARA AMIEL

At approximately three-and-half minutes into the new American film *Fatal Attraction*, Glenn Close (who plays Alex Forrest, a book editor) appears on the screen in a publishing party sequence. After making allowances for the cultural nuances between the dress and hairstyles of New York and London, Close will be instantly recognizable as the woman who calls her working life "a career" rather than a job. Her speciality is the f— off look. "She undressed me with her eyes," rationalizes one spurned male guest. "But had trouble with my buttons."

Still, from Alex's point-of-view the party is not a total loss. Wearing a perpetually challenging look and the mandatory three-and-half inches of bangles jangling above manicured red nails, she does meet the lawyer, Dan Gallagher, played by Michael Douglas.

Six minutes later in the film, the two of them sit in a local bistro. Alex has shed her all-white raincoat and sits in her all-white *décolleté* business suit with Dan. He seems transfixed by her half smile and the marvellous skin sheen that comes from knowing how to dab luminous powder on important reflective areas of the face.

"Where's your wife?" asks Alex, Medusa hair a halo around glinting cheekbones.

"In the country visiting her parents," replies Dan.

"And you're here with a strange girl being a naughty boy," banters Alex.

"I don't think having dinner with anybody's a crime," replies man immemorial.

"Not yet," counters New York liberated chic. Pause.

Dan laughs nervously. "Well, I definitely think it's going to be up to you."

"I can't say yet. I haven't made up my mind. We were attracted to each other at the party. That was obvious." Pause. "We're two adults."

Dan: "Let's get the check."

Thus begins the weekend which packs in a hefty amount of grunting and ends on a less than upbeat note when the "adult" lady cuts her wrists because happily married Dan is going home to wife, daughter and dog. Matters get worse from this point on, as Alex feels this brief encounter has entitled her to a permanent place in Dan's life. She begins a pattern of bizarre, obsessive behaviour, all out to get her man.

The film has broken all box office records in America. At the same time it has created an avalanche of accusations that it is anti-feminist. *Time* magazine's cover story describes it as "tapping the current mood of sexual malaise", and calls it a "reactionary" tale. Marsha Kinder, a feminist film professor, calls it "hateful politically".

Writing in this month's *Vogue*, the critic David Demby sees Alex begin as an intriguing woman shaped by "feminist perceptions". But as her behaviour embraces such self-assertive acts as throwing acid on Dan's car and making a stew of his child's pet rabbit, Demby concludes that Alex has been betrayed by the script writer's "male paranoia". Hmm. Meanwhile, London newspaper critics have called the picture a "grim warning about adultery", which invents "absurdly terrible and disproportionate consequences".

In fact, this script is simply a well done Gothic tale of an ordinary situation that in the manner of Edgar Allen Poe's *The Black Cat* just gets out of hand. For this to work, and to be pulled into the horror of a cat who eventually kills his master, you must first believe that the cat is simply the old man's pet. To accept the nightmare of Alex you must first be convinced by the normality of her life and Dan's — which one certainly is.



Clinch it: Douglas, Close

The unexpected element is the reversal of wrath

Why, then, the outrage? The ostensible reasons are that it attacks the liberated woman and gives her sexual freedom unfair lethal consequences through using a far-fetched scenario. But I think the problem with this film for the feminists may be that it strikes a bit too close to the bone.

Fatal Attraction simply demonstrates the palpable truth that the liberated woman of the Eighties has not escaped the human condition. Perhaps this upsets the moderns, who feel that an artist's loft of one's own ought to make one trauma-proof. But the movie, as far as I can see, only indicates that it is quite possible to have all the accessories of the liberated female and still be subject to all the age old fears.

What I think is quite clever is that the film-makers understand that if Alex is to become a psychopathic loony she will do so in terms of the spirit of the times. She will rant about making her victim "face your responsibilities". There will be a lot of shouting about men using women and hating them. People who go crazy are generally not very original and simply use all the clichés of their times. Close says she developed a background of child abuse by Alex's father as a motivation for her performance. How *zeitgeisty*.

The obsessiveness of the spurned lover is a well-observed, fundamental phenomenon and it happens to both men and women. I suppose if one challenged the script writers of this film, they could show you a news clipping to document every nasty, mad incident. I can't remember the name of the youth who shot President Reagan in order to prove his love for actress Jody Foster, or the Canadian farmer who believed Anne Murray's songs were messages to him and followed her all over the world, but I do remember in my younger days sitting all night hunched up in the front seat of my old car watching a former boyfriend come and go. Heaven knows why I did it. But at what point do the rejected lover's actions become far-fetched?

I suppose, statistically speaking, most people have made those pathetic late night telephone calls to a lover — at least once in their life. Perhaps fewer people show up at the office of the man or woman who rejects them, and I expect even fewer people take out their pain by pouring acid on the loved one's car. Here is where one descends into pathology, and every step becomes statistically rarer. But statistical frequency is not a literary test. It is unlikely that lovers would commit mutual suicide in the family crypt but *Romeo and Juliet* works because the development of the tragedy is logical.

The only unexpected element this modern horror tale has is the reversal of wrath. Previously, if a woman tried to steal a husband, she could be expected to get her eyes scratched out by the wife. These days, it seems, it is the interloper who has her rights and it is the wife who must worry about facing the other woman's righteous indignation.

That fits in very well with the aggressive sexuality of some liberated females, but it must be an awful shock to progressive film critics to see just how much this favourite role model of theirs is hated by the audiences. "Get her, get her," muttered the woman next to me, as Alex stalked the family home. The audience knows internally that this ideal is not theirs, and by Heaven, they want to see her comeuppance. And by Hollywood, they get it.

Rallying to the roar of the crowd

At the start of the Monte Carlo Rally tomorrow there won't be a woman driver in sight. But in Britain they are being actively encouraged to take part in the 'masculine' world of motor sport



Aitken-Walker: championing the cause of women rally drivers

There was an intense hush over Newtown, Powys, as Louise Aitken-Walker pulled up in her mud-splattered, six-gear Peugeot 205 and made history for a brief moment in the Lombard RAC Rally at the end of last year.

The 27-year-old former shepherdess and lifeguard from Cumbria, and her navigator, Ellen Morgan, became at that stage the first two-woman team to make it to the top 10 of the nation's premier rally, since Pat Moss and Jenny Birrell did it back in 1964. Birrell herself was there to cheer them on.

Even though their triumph was short-lived (they were out of the rally by the final day) their acknowledged accomplishment could not have come at a better time for Lombard, sponsors of the rally.

The finance giant is poised to launch a major initiative this month to attract women car buyers, who already account for 40 per cent of private sales, according to Lombard's Mike Evans, and wants to entice women into motor sport at every level to widen the potential market.

Lombard has enlisted the services of Jean Denton, former racing and rally driver, former director of Heron Cars, and until recently director of external affairs for Austin Rover. Now Denton is with the public relations consultancy Burson-Marsteller, but she remains the most eloquent spokeswoman for motor sport.

Many of the bystanders, huddled silently under umbrellas at the Lombard RAC Welsh rally, had not slept for two days, having followed the cars from Chester through Sutton and Oulton parks to the cold calm of the Welsh forests. They looked as dazed as the competitors.

All except for Jenny Birrell, that is. A bouncy blonde who still bubbles with enthusiasm at the prospect of hitting hairpin turns in snowy forests in the dead of night, she now teaches rallying at Silverstone, writes for a rally magazine — and drives whenever she gets the chance.

"It's in my blood," says the woman who has participated in so many rallies this year that she simply couldn't get her car ready for the RAC event. Like Denton, she is vehement in her desire to see more women coming through.

Even though her skull has been fractured several times, she keeps coming back for more. "I guess I've got that killer instinct," she says, pulling up her fireproof polo neck, guaranteed, she says, to withstand petrol fires for all of 45 seconds. (She smokes like a chimney on the straights without a care.)

"I suppose you could call it masculine, but why is everything aggressive masculine and everything soft supposed to be feminine?" Men may find it easier exerting the hefty 9lb brake pressure needed to control a rally car, she acknowledges, but women, both Birrell and Denton assert, have more finesse on the gearbox.

It is undeniable that most women still come into motor racing or rallying directly or indirectly because of a man. Birrell was married to a racing driver, and Denton says that her former husband encouraged her to take up the sport. Nina Sutcliffe, another competitor in the rally, came from a rallying family: daughter of a well-known driver, sister of another.

Pauline Churchill, who recently drove her first rally, started off very tentatively as co-driver for her second husband, Jan Churchill, and now helps him run a rally school in the Welsh hills.

'Women are more intuitive which makes them ideal as co-drivers'

Couples who can drive together are a rare breed indeed, but one of them has made it into the top 10 of the Monte Carlo Rally: Sylvie Oreille navigates for her husband Alain.

"To be a successful rally driver you don't have time for anything else," says Aitken-Walker, who has just been voted Rally Driver of the Year by readers of *Autosport* magazine, and is married to a garage owner and team mechanic. Birrell and Denton agree. "I didn't go to the cinema for six years," Denton says. "I poured everything I had into my car. I would spend ages trying to talk garages into giving me discounts on parts and I once let someone put a sticker on my car for £10 worth of nylons."

But it is a different world now. Women drivers like Michele Mouton, spoken of with reverence, might command salaries of up to £350,000 a year. And it can cost about £100,000 a year to run a rally car these days — if you don't get sponsorship.

Aitken-Walker and Morgan, have been a team for seven years, and if the driver gets most of the glory, it is the co-driver who actually engineers the victory. "The driver can make mistakes: the co-driver can't," is how Birrell sums it up.

"I used a male co-driver when I was driving," Denton says, "because there simply wasn't a woman available who was good enough. But women are more intuitive and better at handling people than men are, which makes them ideal as co-drivers."

The jewel in the rally season's crown is the Monte Carlo Rally. Aitken-Walker, who won the Coupe de Dames, the top women's prize in Monte Carlo in 1983, says she won't be entering this year's event which starts tomorrow, because "I don't have the money. Sponsorship is tricky to find, particularly for women. But when you do well, it's not quite so difficult." For the moment she is just concentrating on the immediate road ahead, which, for women in motor sport, is still an uphill one.

Victoria McKee

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(See Front Page)

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THE TIMES DIARY

Just hose them down

Labour's troublesome Greater London region is again being asked to put its house in order – this time by one of its own affiliates. In a motion to go before the London party's annual meeting in March, the Fire Brigades Union notes that recent meetings have become disorderly and demands that this time the conference should "conduct itself as a mature and responsible Labour Party forum." Its motion calls for less hostility towards speakers with whom delegates disagree and for stewards to have the authority to remove troublemakers. Disturbances at the annual meetings, it should be said, are nothing new. In his biography, Ken Livingtone writes of "screams of abuse from the floor" as early as the 1977 conference. Jim Fitzpatrick, the firemen's secretary, admits he cannot tell whether the motion will be passed but points out that this will be the region's 21st annual meeting. "Perhaps we are coming of age."

Derailed

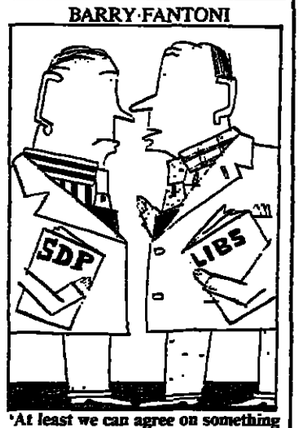
Who would be a Liberal these days? Take the Liberal Parliamentary Association, for instance. Having booked 25 Golden Rail travel and hotel packages for its annual general meeting in Manchester, organizers faced an outbreak of apathy and swiftly had to swop them for others two weeks later in Blackpool, where a special assembly will debate the merger. The next blow was to hear on the radio that their new venue, the Balmoral Hotel in Blackpool, had been damaged by fire, though, thankfully for them, it turned out to be another Balmoral Hotel. Meanwhile, the Merger Now group – 650 Liberals who last week took an advertisement in *Liberal News* – must be relieved in light of this week's events that they had already cancelled their major fringe event at the assembly. They told party HQ yesterday that they would now be holding an invitation-only meeting which they did not want advertised in the agenda.

● **Among missives sent to David Steel yesterday was this, from Sir Clement Freud: "Dear David, If you are doing all this to make me feel better about losing my seat, you can stop now. Yours ever . . ."**

Entrée interdit

Once more unto the breach for the warriors of l'Académie Française in their uphill battle to preserve the purity of their native tongue. Examples of franglais which they find particularly monstrous are, I hear, to be condemned to a newly created "Musée des horreurs." The first wretched invader to suffer this fate is "sponsor, sponsoriser, sponsorisation." The academy also calls upon all French to send in further examples of "linguistic pollution," observing ruefully that this is one museum which will be open 12 months a year. But the savants have passed barman, blazer, bobsleigh and boycott as fit for inclusion in their new dictionary.

BARRY FANTONI



'At least we can agree on something – our policy document is hopeless'

Gribble horror

While most of us worry about woodworm in furniture, Scarborough council has been forced to invest more than £400,000 to eradicate gribble – which, for the uninitiated, is a wood-boring marine creature less than 5mm long – from the town's harbour. The crustacean *(Limnoria lignorum)* is endemic at the Yorkshire port and has spread so rapidly in the past three years that fishermen are worried about their fleets. The gribble, a kind of seaweed-eating, underwater deathwatch beetle, shows a predilection for submerged timber – and 90 per cent of the harbour's fleet is wooden. Since one cubic inch can provide a home for up to 400 of the creatures the timber becomes honeycombed with burrows. The harbour is unusual in not being flushed by fresh river water, which the gribble loathes and would send it packing.

Watt tribute

Fridays were the mornings when my gaze quickly flicked from this column to see what David Watt had to say in his regular space on the other side of this page. Now as a tribute to Watt, who died tragically last March, RTZ is sponsoring an annual £2,000 prize for writers on international and political affairs. Details of the David Watt Memorial Prize appear on today's Court and Social page.

PHS

Stifling the public interest

by Robin Oakley
Political Editor

Without a word of argument against it, the government will today impose a three-line whip to defeat a Private Member's Bill by Conservative backbencher Richard Shepherd to reform the Official Secrets Act. Mrs Thatcher has not argued with any of the Bill's eminently sensible provisions; she objects simply that it is not an appropriate subject for a backbencher.

But it is only the prospect of this Bill which has stirred the government, after eight years of silence, to reconsider reforming the much-derided Act – and most MPs will believe that reform when they actually see it.

Even Tory MPs, concerned that the government is looking increasingly authoritarian, are saying that Mrs Thatcher must now reassess her policies on official secrets, the security services and the freedom of the press.

The pursuit of the now unexpectedly wealthy Peter Wright across the courtrooms of the world, which began as an entirely understandable attempt to protect the security services, now looks no more than a crude attempt to put the frighteners on any public official who might consider passing some trifle to a journalistic acquaintance.

It has been a weird 12 months:

● The former Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robert Armstrong, told an Australian *Spycatcher* court that he had been economical with the truth.

● Special Branch men raided the BBC's Glasgow offices, carting away vanloads of notebooks, files and film cans relating to the Zircon episode in the *Secret Society* TV series, while others checked through journalist Duncan Campbell's computer games.

● Government lawyers sought to bully the highly respected radio producer Anne Sloman into handing over the script of *My Country Right or Wrong*, a programme cleared by the D-Notice committee yet banned by government-sought injunction. Meanwhile Mr Marmaduke Hussey, the man Tories believed had been sent to the BBC to stop any more lefty nonsense, responded with entirely proper indignation, savaging the government for repeatedly seeking injunctions to suppress the media.

The injunction sought and obtained initially by the government prevented the BBC from carrying any report about the security services or their personnel past or present, even if based on parliamentary or court proceedings. Thus even if they had reported an MP who referred in the House of Commons to Burgess and Maclean they would have been transgressing. And all this from a government second to none in its willingness to invoke the rhetoric of Western democratic freedoms.

Were it not for the fact that the public has more sympathy with the average plague of locusts than with any supposed sufferings by Fleet Street, there would have been uproar. As it is, this government, in office long enough with shock-proof majorities to assume its own infallibility, has become entirely careless of the freedom of the press.

No longer certain after the Ponting case of being able to use the criminal law to achieve its ends, it has launched a tidal wave of civil legal actions. Meanwhile its laziness in failing to reform the Official Secrets Act has ensured that the issues are being decided and new case law made by Parliament, not judges.

The government resists requests for an inquiry into the security services, following Wright's allegations of bugging and burgling all over Whitehall and attempts by MI5 to destabilise the Harold Wilson administration, even though many in the security services themselves would now like such an inquiry to clear the air.

It refuses to allow any effective scrutiny of the security services, not even by an all-party committee of privy councillors, which might lessen the desire of the media to probe an institution left so unaccountable and so take the issue out of partisan debate.

What draws all these things together in the government's eyes is the need for the security services to be able to operate in secret and the principle that public servants have a lifelong duty to refrain from publishing their memoirs or talking about their work.

But you cannot have a selective straitjacket on national security. When the information has been circulated worldwide then you only make yourself ridiculous by pursuing British newspapers who try to publish it.

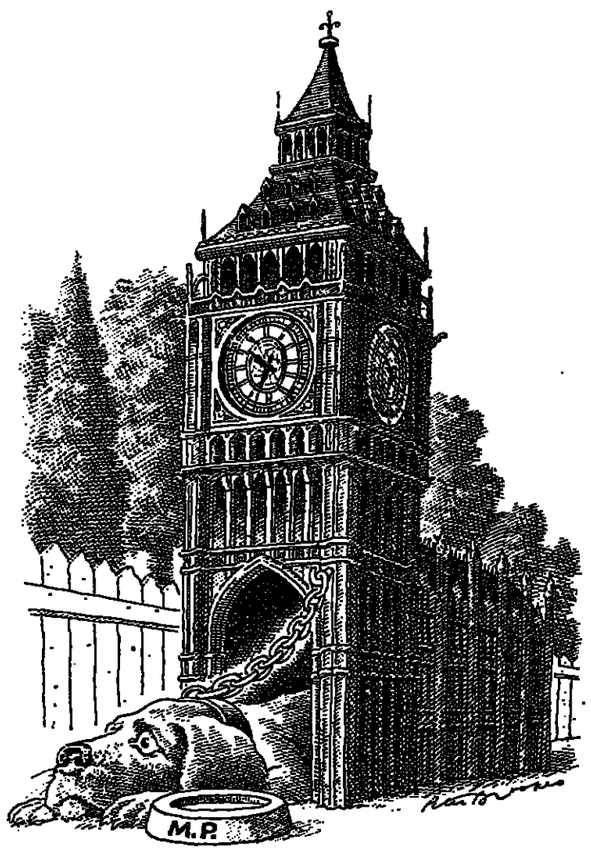
It all begins to look much more like an attempt to preserve from any kind of public gaze the workings of government and to frighten off those who would seek information about them. Court actions have the effect not just of making life uncomfortable for the Peter Wrights but of stifling Commons debate and deterring journalistic effort.

What upsets the government about Mr Shepherd's Bill, you begin to suspect, is that it would introduce the defence of public interest against a secrets prosecution – because much of what the government is doing in this field is not in the public interest, merely in the interest of the government.

That former MI5 or MI6 men should not prejudice their services everyone would agree. But from that to saying that they should never be allowed to be interviewed on any subject at all is a very long walk indeed.

This government did not begin thinking along those sort of lines. Mrs Thatcher showed splendid vigour at first when bringing the Anthony Blunt affair into the open. She should return to her earlier ways and Tory MPs should assist her today by ignoring that three-line whip.

Palace or doghouse?



Elizabeth Vallance, co-author of a new book on Westminster, disentangles the realities from the myths of the average backbench MP's working life

Perhaps it is looking for trouble to ask what MPs do. To a public whose political diet is largely confined to the raucous party point-scoring of *Yesterday in Parliament* and the often unintelligibly noisy dogfights of *Question Time*, the quick and facetious answer may seem fairly accurate.

We do not, on the whole, like our MPs; we find them loud-mouthed, self-publicizing and devious. In opinion polls they consistently come behind other professionals in the "most admired" and "most trusted" stakes. (A recent television poll found them just in front of journalists and door-to-door salesmen in terms of their trustworthiness.) They are people we love to hate.

Although all MPs have the same basic components in their "job kit" –Parliament, the constituency, party commitments and so on – they combine the different parts to give different shapes to the work, producing an amazing variety of patterns, rather like a kaleidoscope. Or, to change the metaphor, the job is a menu, from which dishes can be selected, rather than a set meal. There is no job description and no required qualifications, although it is a disqualification to be mad, bad (a felon or a bankrupt) or a peer of the realm. Nobody has apparently ever discovered the extent to which these categories overlap.

Strong reactions to MPs are based on only the haziest notion of what they actually do. Most people believe that politics and government are simply too complicated to understand; fewer than half can even name their local member and only half of those can say anything at all about their member's record in Parliament, business or professional interests, union connections, involvements with lobbies and so forth.

At one level this is all perhaps unsurprising: politics is and will no doubt remain a minority sport. Yet it does mean that the demands and expectations of the electorate about the job of an MP, its significance and priorities, is rather different from the view from the Commons. Put in a nutshell, MPs mostly see themselves as national legislators juggling their constituency commitments and specialist contribution, while electors want "a county councillor at Westminster".

The nature and balance of the backbench job has changed considerably with the increased scope and detail of legislation making for longer and longer hours. In 1900, Public Acts amounted to only about 200 pages; by the mid-1970s the total had risen to 2,000, with a lengthening of the parliamentary session from an average 129 days before 1914 to 163 since 1945.

Individually, MPs claim to work an average of nearly 70 hours a week when the House is sitting, and in recent years between 40 and 50 per cent of sittings extended beyond midnight. In addition, the increasing demands of constituency work have led some members to complain that they are now mainly glorified social workers, forced, if they want to keep their seats, into a preoccupation with leaking roofs and blocked drains: "I catch the slates as they fall," said one MP, scarcely exaggerating the level of local commitment frequently expected.

Although they often grumble about the endless demands of the constituency, it is clear that for many it is the best part of the job. It is easily identifiable; it is useful and wins friends; in short, as one member put it, "It gives one a sense of purpose". Being in need of a sense of purpose makes MPs sound like the casualties of some social disaster, requiring direction and personal security with constituency politics fulfilling a therapeutic function.

The idea may not be as fanciful as it sounds. Most backbenchers are well aware of their very limited role in policy-making; they feel powerless in the face of the Cabinet, the Civil Service and the party bureaucracy. The development of the select committee structure, to scrutinize the executive, has done little to change this for the ordinary backbencher, often simply giving the impression, as one said, of being "experts talking to other experts and the specialized press".

Constituency work then, can become a welcome assertion of autonomy and influence. It is often self-generating and undertaken at a sometimes frantic rate not just, it seems, because it secures the future by creating a high profile and generating goodwill but because members find it fulfilling. Indeed it consistently emerges in interviews as the "most satisfying" or "most rewarding" part of the job. Many members express a kind of bemused surprise, an almost touching gratitude, about the positive response of constituents with whose problems they have dealt. And constituents are impressed. They may well subscribe to the common view that "politicians are incompetent and dishonourable" while being equally sure that "my MP is well-intentioned and tries hard".

But the underlying ambiguity of the job means that, however much they take comfort in the satisfaction of pavement politics, most members feel that constituency work is fundamentally "parish pump". Indeed it is to move on from exactly this kind of involvement that many politicians leave the local for the national scene and it is obviously a source of considerable frustration to such people to find that, rather than influencing policy issues, they are, as one put it, irreducibly concerned with "the endless pursuit of ephemera and minutiae . . . sometimes I ask myself what have I done today? What world-shattering effect have I had? And it's very little . . ."

The chances of being effective in the backbench job are not improved by the conditions of work. Only about 270 members (out of 650) have individual rooms and more than 60 share with four or more others. Desks in corridors, no room for filing cabinets, far less computers, has led one member to call the Palace of Westminster "an elegant Gothic slum" and it clearly stands out as hopelessly inadequate when compared with European or transatlantic equivalents.

Members also feel let down by the standard of services and facilities. Indeed the Top Salary Review Body, looking at such factors in comparable institutions, concluded that only Irish and Italian legislators could be deemed obviously worse off. There have been opposing views from traditionalists and radicals over institutional reform of the House. There is much support, for example, for restricting voting after 10pm. Late nights are seen by many as a symptom of "a silly Boy Scout sense of duty in staying up all night". Yet there is also scepticism about any suggestion that the job can be controlled by limiting the hours. It is hard not to see here something of the martyr's acceptance of the crown of thorns; it may be extremely uncomfortable but it shows total commitment and also indicates the importance of the backbench role.

In the end, the House has failed to reform itself largely because MPs are not committed to change. They put up with the ceaseless, frenetic activity, the lack of a private life and free time. They accept and even embrace the life of politics knowing it allows very little compromise with the life outside. One might even say they like it that way.

The author is Reader in Politics at Queen Mary College, London. Her book, MP: The Job of a Backbencher, *written with Lisanne Radice and Virginia Willis, is published by Macmillan (£9.95).*

London cries out for a voice again

Less than two years after the government abolished the Greater London Council, to widespread applause from London Conservatives, the governance of the capital is giving cause for concern:

"I see it as a great tragedy that just at the time when local government is under the strongest pressure ever from the central bureaucracy, London has no one united voice,". The words are not from Ken Livingstone or some other former County Hall firebrand but from a recent speech by Sir Greville Spratt, the Lord Mayor of London.

Councillors from Westminster and Barnet who applauded loudest when the GLC was abolished now share his sentiments. This week they led a delegation (in the company of Labour councillors) to the Home Office to complain about the lack of supervision of London's police force.

Those councillors and, more importantly, the ministers concerned with their complaints about recruiting staff and coping with poll tax in London, are realizing that a body representing London as a whole was not only useful administratively, for such purposes as waste disposal, but was also a vital political forum. It is a fair bet that before the end of Mrs Thatcher's third term some new London-wide body or bodies will be created.

This "London problem" has provoked today's conference at The Royal Institute of Public Administration on the capital's public services. Although the services share many common problems they no longer have the GLC forum to air them in.

One problem is how to distribute money and services fairly between inner-city areas and the outer suburbs. Take health, for example. There is a continuing debate over the distribution of money within the Thames health regions between the inner districts (in which the expensive teaching hospitals are concentrated, along with consultants and high-tech medicine) and the districts covering suburbia, many of which do not have enough hospital beds or acute care facilities. Conversely, in distributing local government funds, the poorer people in the inner areas have the greater need.

All the London health districts have difficulty recruiting and retaining nursing and secretarial staff; there is a constant drift from the Metropolitan Police; Merton and Sutton councils are having to devise fancy packages to keep their computer operators and accountants. The RIPA asks where is the forum where the providers of public services can get together and make a common case covering the interests of residents in Beckenham and Bermondsey who, however different their physical environments, are necessarily linked by the patterns of travel and activity which characterize a conurbation.

The common problems of the capital's public services have much to do with prosperity. Economic growth in the South-east, coupled with house price inflation, has raised the costs of providing such services. But how is that fact recognized in negotiations with central government when London has no presence in the administration of the health service, education, social services, or local government in general?

The issue is seen most clearly in community care. A patient leaving Friern Barnet mental hospital in Hampstead and Highgate health district, for example, may well live outside the immediate area and involve local social services from a different borough. At present there is no London-wide liaison mechanism for the various services involved in his after-care.

Back to the Lord Mayor. "London now has no single voice speaking for it in the corridors of power." There is a growing bipartisan opinion that it needs one.

David Walker

John Rae

Privileged to the core

I will say this for the privileged classes: they are consistent. Whenever their position is threatened, they pose as the champions of tradition and liberty. They are at it again in their opposition to the Education Reform Bill.

Kenneth Baker's reforms threaten the privileged position of the teachers, the local education authorities, indeed the whole education establishment. In this sense it is a revolutionary measure, and it has provoked the familiar aristocratic response. It is not privilege that Citizen Baker is said to be threatening but fundamental freedom, democracy and all that is best in the British tradition.

What hypocrites they are. None more so than the bastion of privilege, the National Union of Teachers, which has just published a commentary on the bill. What the union really objects to is that the bill will take away the privilege of teachers to teach what they like, how they like, with no national check on how effectively they are doing it.

What the union *says* it objects to is that the bill empowers the Secretary of State to control education "in a fundamentally totalitarian and undemocratic manner". The section on the national curriculum is said to be "fatally flawed" because it breaks with tradition, emphasizes the needs of society and is couched in the language of "conformism and authority".

It is time to call the bluff of the privileged classes. There is nothing undemocratic about a national curriculum imposed by central government. It happens in democratic countries across the world, from France to Japan. It also happens in undemocratic countries such as the Soviet Union.

What distinguishes the undemocratic country is not central control of the curriculum but the use of the curriculum as an instrument of political propaganda. Those who argue that this could happen in Britain are expressing fears not about the national curriculum but about the strength of our democracy.

The national curriculum is no more a step towards totalitarianism than was the introduction of compulsory military service in 1916. The parallel is interesting. Military conscription was identified with foreign despotism, entirely alien to the traditional liberties of this country.

The truth was rather different. The British had managed to avoid conscription not because they loved liberty more than did the continentals but because the Channel had made them virtually invulnerable to invasion. It was not a noble principle but a fact of geography that allowed the British to rely on voluntary recruiting for so long.

Similarly, the British have avoided a national curriculum until now not through love of liberty but because they believed they were invulnerable to national decline. No matter what was taught in the schools Britain was doing very nicely with a decentralized, do-as-you-please education system. A national curriculum, like conscription, was a measure that only foreign (by which the British meant "inferior") countries found it necessary to impose.

When conscription was introduced in 1916, it was a pragmatic decision. For the first time the British had to field a continental army on a scale that voluntary recruiting could not provide. When the national curriculum becomes law later this year, British pragmatism will again be responsible. There is no principle involved, no traditional liberty at stake. It is simply that for the first time the British have to take eduction seriously. National decline has occurred on a scale that 100 years ago would have seemed unimaginable. Britain now has to compete with countries, notably Japan, whose curriculum is geared to the needs of the economy. It can no longer afford to rely on a "voluntary" education system.

The opponents of Baker's revolution refuse to accept this argument. It is tempting to see them as academic innocents who have not grasped that Britain is no longer a rich and powerful country. But that is a generous interpretation of their motives. I think they are selfish men and women determined to protect their privileged position.

Until now the members of the educational establishment, including the various unions, have decided what should be taught in schools. At no time did they show any concern about the impact of education on the economy. They were warned over and over again that unless the curriculum was reformed Britain would lose out in international competition, but they continued to believe that they knew best.

They still do, as the union commentary shows. The Education Reform Bill provides for a National Curriculum Council to advise the Secretary of State. It also ensures that the council will not be dominated by members of the education establishment. But the NUT argues that "only those with relevant knowledge or experience in education need to be included". One might as well suggest that a body to review the role of Test match officials should be composed entirely of Pakistani umpires.

I will say this for the privileged classes; they do not lack gall or tenacity in defending their privileges. They know that do-as-you-please education in this country is at an end but they will continue to fight long-overdue reform in the name of liberty and tradition. I do not imagine that Parliament will be deceived.

The author, formerly headmaster of Westminster School, is director of the Laura Ashley Foundation.

however . . . Paul Jennings

Nostalgia goes for a Burton

Whatever else is happening to Burton's – *Montague* Burton's to anyone who can remember three-wheeled Morgans, Lyons Corner House with live musicians, perhaps even trolley buses, milk bars and waffle parlours?

While remaining an enormous retailer, they have just got rid of their last three factories, providing further evidence of the end of an era when everybody knew where things were made: cars in Coventry, hats in Luton, knives in Sheffield, lace in Nottingham, English Ford in Dagenham (now people are always telling you mysterious stories of Coventry cars with bits from Germany, assembly in Spain, electrics from France or for all I know Fiji); and of course Montague Burton's suits from vast factories in Leeds or thereabouts.

I've just looked at the label of my Christmas-present sweater for the first time. It says Shetland, with that twisted wool symbol which until now I always thought *was* English, and under that, Mauritius. But on the inside pocket of my still presentable overcoat, which I shall soon have had for as many years as it cost in pounds – less than 20 – there is a white fabric square on which are apparently *typed* crumpled but still legible data of extraordinary detail. *Cloth No 4955. Garment 0YITS. Quality 217. Cutting No 5894/3. Factory BN1*; and quite a lot more. Another, grander label, black with a royal coat of arms in gold – well, a rather anaemic yellow now – says By Appointment To Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Tailors Montague Burton Limited, Leeds 9.

That was what the Burton era was about. Before Burton and their followers came on the scene, their young male dummies with smiles of marvellous vacuity in the front of the window and more portly though admirably suited men standing at the back, leaning slightly forward as if about to shake hands, there were only two classes of male clothing customers; those rich enough to go to shops where their own tailors, shirt-sleeved, pins in mouth, tape measures round neck, hung their embryo suits on lay figures in the clothy quiet, and those who went into cheap establishments which also had shirts in racks of horizontal drawers, ties, underwear, a lady cashier in a glass box beyond two brass-edged steps on the brown linoleum, change whizzing along overhead wires in little metal cylinders. They would come out with the kind of suit you still see worn by the 4,000 delegates at the Soviet Praesidium.

Burtons were for the vast thousands, millions, of us who came in between. If a town had buses and trams, it had a Burtons. The customers were, naturally, all men. Unlike women, who are mad about a dress in a shop window, delighted the first time they wear it, very pleased the next time, merely pleased the next, and progressively discontented with it, men *hate* buying clothes. They feel that a suit of which the jacket is still okay but which suddenly goes right through at a trouser knee has somehow betrayed them, just when they have got to like it. I once had a coat for so long that it looked like me. My wife would sometimes say on the phone "I'm sorry he's out, but you can speak to his coat if you like."

I still remember the quiet upstairs floor, with its quiet clients, all men, no wives, where I got my Burton overcoat. A kind of library of coats; can there really have been 5893 cuttings and 216 qualities before they got to mine? I quickly found the right one. Nobody came forward, thank God, and murmured could they help me. And I'm sure the suit floor was just the same, *and* you could have made-to-measure.

Yet all this was still associated with one place, Leeds, and one man, Mr (later Sir Montague) Burton. No one imagines there's a Mr Tesco, a Mr Bejam, (sounds like an Irish oath) let alone a Mr C and a Mr A; and one has no picture of a Mr Austin Reed (or Mr Austin meeting Mr Reed in 1900-something, like Rolls meeting Royce). And in any case they are the posh end with a gap now widening again between them and dreadful semi-bazaars full of admittedly quite a range of stuff (from all the world though, never mind Leeds) and men trying on jackets *with their wives*, who cock their heads to one side and say things like "Isn't it a bit full in the skirt, dear". Burtons will surely never be like that, factory or no factory; but I could wish they were still called Montague, not just Burtons Menswear.

TIMES PAST
THE TIMES
1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

A MARKER FOR MR HURD

Yesterday afternoon's meeting between a Conservative Prime Minister, increasingly sensitive to the very mention of the words secrecy or security, and a Conservative backbencher, responding single-handedly to the requirement to reform the law on official secrets, was always likely to be abrasive. So it proved.

Mr Richard Shepherd has behaved as the best sort of creative Tory MP, pressuring his Party leaders towards a desirable end that all ministers, by the very nature of their office, prefer to postpone. He has also served a valuable public function in raising a debate on the details of a subject that has for too long been undebated – except through slogans.

For his pains he has received scant reward. In a defensive move which has angered a large majority of Conservative parliamentary opinion, Mr Shepherd's bill will die today at the whim of a three-line Government whip. Points at issue, that could have been usefully brought to ministers' attention will not be so brought. The sense that the Government is frightened of security matters will be unnecessarily heightened.

Mrs Thatcher will doubtless have told her troublesome backbencher that this is too big a matter for the likes of him. If that message were delivered with grace, it would be hard not to agree. It would have been much better had the Government replaced the long-ridiculed Section Two of the Official Secrets Act long ago. The Home Secretary is now hastening to produce his own proposals. May he proceed with a will.

There remains the strong suspicion, however, that without Mr Shepherd's prodding we would be seeing less effort from Mr Hurd. That spur should not be allowed to drop simply because the bill is defeated.

Whatever the more extreme campaigners may think, the public is not crying out for perfect freedom of information. It has a fair inkling that some of the state's business must always be conducted privately, buttressed by hard law.

Where it has lost respect is in the universal and profligate nature of an Official Secrets Act that purports to keep the entirety of the state's information under wraps and to silence every Civil Servant – driving examiner as well as ex-spy – from first day at work to the grave.

Mr Shepherd's bill seeks to define the categories of information which the state genuinely needs to protect. It includes information on defence, international relations, security and intelligence.

It can be argued that this might be defined more tightly in terms of specific divisions of the Defence Department, Home, Foreign and Cabinet Offices. What case is there, for example, for tying down within the restricted category – with all the consequent ill effects upon consultation and efficiency – a Cabinet Office official whose job is the promotion of equal opportunities in Whitehall or the editing of *Social Trends*?

Other elements in Mr Shepherd's bill include a sensible method of appeal to a committee of Privy Counsellors against the wrong classification of information. There is also a useful attempt to extend a right of defence to those who make protected information public.

Such a defence would be primarily in terms of public interest in the disclosure and such an interest would have to stem from a prior breach of principle (such as abuse of authority). There would be the rider that the defence would not hold unless the Civil Servant had exhausted established complaint procedures internally. It would not, therefore, have allowed the action of Mr Clive Ponting.

This clause in the bill needs close attention and revision, but its principle is right. Appeals to higher principles of "public interest" must, of course, be tested eventually in the courts, by a jury.

While not perfect, Mr Shepherd's proposals are a serious and careful response to a problem. It is to be hoped that the decision to discourage debate on the bill (which could not possibly have passed into law against the Government's will) was not an attempt to minimize comparison with the Government's own eventual efforts. There is a marker now against which Mr Hurd must be judged.

CRISIS, WHAT CRISIS?

Among the valuable information supplied by the annual publication, *Social Trends*, is one table which shines out from the rest as an illustration of how wrong predictions can be. For years we have been regaled with dire prognostications about the cost to the working population of supporting the growing number of elderly people. These provided the impetus for the review of social security spending and distribution set in train (to little effect) by Mr Norman Fowler. They reportedly agitated the Prime Minister and perhaps began the Government on its course of reforming the welfare state.

As tabulated in *Social Trends*, however, the bare statistics give no grounds for panic, nor even real concern. The number of elderly has risen and will continue to rise, but the total number of people who rely on support from the state – mainly the elderly and the very young – has remained almost static as a proportion of the population as a whole.

In 1971, the number of "dependents" – children and those over retirement age – equalled 72 per cent of the population of working age. By the end of the century that ratio will be 66 per cent, a little above its current figure of 63 per cent. These are crude proportions, taking no account of wealthy pensioners nor unemployed workers, but they show a remarkable uniformity which does little to support the nightmare of a dwindling number of workers supporting an infinitely growing brigade of the old and sick.

The figures become even less daunting when one takes into account that Britain in 2001 will be a considerably richer society than it was 30 years before. This means that, whatever the complaints being voiced now about the inadequacy of funds, the social resources available to provide services for the dependent population will be greater in 2001 than they were in 1971 (when, incidentally, there were remarkably few complaints about welfare provision).

In other words, Britain faces no demographic crisis. It does, however, face another sort of crisis. Like many other industrialized countries, it faces a challenge to its political institutions which have to adapt their spending to accommodate demographic change.

In theory, the falling numbers of children should mean that additional resources could be allocated to the nursing care required by the increasing numbers of the very old. The total pensioner population will not change much, but the proportion of very old people within it will increase. But this transfer of resources from provision for children to provision for the elderly has not happened. Rather, the Secretary for Education, Mr Baker, finds little support for the closure of under-used schools and is battling for more money for a sector of spending that has fewer bodies to educate.

Any transfer of spending would, of course, incur costs of its own. But all the demographic and financial signs are that Britain should be able to meet the social demands for the next 12 years without great difficulty. The current political climate, however, suggests the contrary.

TODAY IN TAIPEI

The death of President Chiang Ching-kuo of Taiwan brings to an end the rule of the island's short-lived Chiang dynasty. It also breaks one of the strongest links in the chain that has bound Taiwan, or the Republic of China, to the mainland for nearly 40 years.

As the eldest son of General Chiang Kai-shek who led his troops into flight from the mainland in 1949, Chiang Ching-kuo provided a constant reminder of the defeat suffered by the Nationalists at the hands of the communists. He also embodied Taipei's claim to be the only legitimate government of China. If China was to be reunited – and this is still the professed aim of the Nationalists – then it had to be under the Kuomintang flag.

The legacy of Chiang Kai-shek has been a crucial unifying and motivating force in Taiwan. A strong sense of national pride, coupled with a feeling of enduring injustice, gave the people of Taiwan a determination to out-perform the mainland in all possible areas. Taiwan now has one of the fastest-growing economies in Asia. The end of the Chiang dynasty could mean that this strength will be dissipated.

But Taiwan's success was bought also at the cost of restrictions on individual liberties which could not be sustained indefinitely. As the state encouraged individual achievement in other areas and the threat from the mainland to Taiwan's independent existence appeared to recede, such restrictions became less supportable. The generation which had no memory of the heroic exodus was pressing for change.

In the last two years of his life, President Chiang Ching-kuo presided over the gradual dismantling of the edifice on which much of his power rested. Martial law and many of the restrictions which went with it, were lifted. Elections were held, and a new political party – the Democratic Progressive Party – was tolerated, if not expressly permitted. Most significant for the future was the tentative normalization he initiated in relations with the mainland.

Since May 1986, when officials from Taiwan and the People's Republic met face-to-face in Hong Kong, contact has become more frequent. Last autumn, Taiwan allowed tourist visits to Hong Kong and Macao for the first time; it has subsequently permitted visits to the mainland by those with relatives there. The question of "two Chinas", which was so contentious in the early years of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic and the United States, has barely arisen in the latest cooling of US-Chinese relations.

Some of the appearance of hostility has been maintained. Even as Taiwan relaxed its travel regulations, two journalists were threatened with prosecution for visiting the mainland without permission. Trade is still conducted through third parties. China's civil message of condolences on President Chiang China-kuo's death made it clear that the People's Republic still regarded Taiwan as a province of the mainland and hoped for reunification. That condolences were sent at all represents a signal change from the habitual vilification of the Nationalist Government by Mao Tse-tung.

If the tactics have become more sophisticated, however, Peking's goal – of reuniting China under communism – remains. It merely seems to have accepted, from the precedent of Hong Kong and Macao, that it can get what it wants soon enough by negotiation rather than resorting to force.

Given Peking's stated intentions, the continuing suspicions of the Taiwan Chinese are well founded. But the death of President Chiang Ching-kuo could allow normalization – of ties with the mainland and of Taiwan's internal politics – to proceed without some of the encumbrances which retarded it during his lifetime. The weakening of the Nationalist heritage could, if judiciously used by the new President, Lee Teng-hui, permit Taiwan greater freedom of action in the future.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whitehall's hidden curb on jobs

From Mr Melville Bernstein

Sir, Today's coverage of Lord Young's determination to redirect the Department of Industry's efforts (front page report, centre page article and leading article) clearly demonstrates your belief in the importance of the proposed changes.

With one factory located in a high-priority assisted area and another in Skelmersdale, Lancashire, my company have considerable experience of the DTI in relation to promotion of industry by automatic grants and other schemes.

Based on many years of such contact, I would suggest that Lord Young faces an insuperable problem in his undoubtedly sincere and determined effort to minimise bureaucracy and introduce modern competitive systems to his department.

Consider the motivation of any civil servant at a high enough level to decide if Government money is to be awarded to a commercial enterprise. This category automatically precludes technically qualified experts recruited to analyse potential projects, leaving us with non-technically qualified men and women whose higher education is almost certainly at university and more likely than not to be Oxbridge.

Academics automatically instil their values and mores into easily influenced students fresh from school who, when they graduate straight into the Civil Service, face a continuation of the same background where monthly salary appears irrespective of the efforts of the individual recipient and dismissal on the grounds of incompetence is effectively unknown. This attitude is not shared by modern business and is light years away from the experience of entrepreneurs whose livelihood is entirely dependent on success.

How would a traditional civil servant at this decision-making level react to an application for Government funding? With Lear Jet and De Lorean engraved in his memory cells and with fear of parliamentary committees hanging over him, he (or she) would play safe. This means carefully looking into proposals of smaller companies and investigating them thoroughly with every incentive to either say no or to attach unacceptable conditions.

With luck, the applicant will despairingly pull out of negotiations because of the mounting cost and delay; since the civil servant receives his remuneration package whilst writing letters, making phone calls or site visiting, delay and cost have no effect on him. This means the dialogue between the DTI and applicant is always hopelessly unequal.

Now consider an application from, say, GEC, ICI, or similar international concerns. If I were a civil servant dealing with such applications, I would bear in mind the apt comparison with computers . . . "No one ever got sacked for buying IBM".

If Lord Young has a sure-fire way to train cats to stop hunting birds, then he has a chance of taking the DTI with him on his odyssey to a competitive Britain; otherwise the gulf between entrepreneur and DTI will never diminish.

Yours faithfully,
MELVILLE BERNSTEIN,
Chairman,
Daryl Industries Ltd,
Alfred Road, Wallasey, Wirral.
January 13.

Tax spur for arts

From the Chairman of the National Art-Collections Fund

Sir, The 1986-87 report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art appealed for an increase in the funds available to our national collections for the purchase of important objects in view of the rising prices in the international art market. Our children, the report said, may be surprised and disappointed that we should have permitted so much of our heritage and theirs to slip away from us.

Museums' purchase grants have been frozen for yet another three years, making a seven-year freeze in total, and this in a period when the prices of works of art have risen enormously.

The National Art-Collections Fund assisted the purchase of six of the eight works of art held back from export in 1986-87 and subsequently acquired by national collections.

Two simple tax changes would help to save necessary and desirable works of art which are threatened. First, the terms offered by the Inland Revenue to those who are thinking of offering a work of art in lieu of tax should be improved. Second, individual taxpayers should be enabled to deduct donations of money or of approved works of art from their annual tax liability. These two simple changes would save many important works of art from being sold overseas.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS GOODISON,
Chairman,
National Art-Collections Fund,
20 John Islip Street, SW1.
January 7.

Value from the peers

From the Reverend R. J. Hills

Sir, Mr. A. E. Holdsworth, QC, (January 9) calls for "working peers" in two categories: (a) "voting peers" with "binding" votes, selected by the political parties in proportion to the votes cast for them in the preceding general election; and (b) "cross-bench" peers with only "persuasive" (or negligible) votes.

Surely (a) risks only party "yes-men" being selected and the Lords losing valuable mavericks and noble men and women of independent mind; and (b) would deprive Parliament of the votes of numerous eminent persons of law and medicine, science and religion, unattached to any party.

And as the clergy of the established Church are ineligible for the Lower House, because their senior bishops vote in the Upper Chamber, does Mr Holdsworth want voting vicars in the Commons instead?

Yours truly,
JONATHAN HILLS,
19 Church Way,
Iffley, Oxford.

Earlier edition

From Mrs W. M. Fraser

Sir, I beg to disagree with a statement made in the report headed "Quality paper for the schoolchild" (January 8). This is not the first.

When I was a girl, comics were forbidden, but instead we had Arthur Mee's excellent *Children's Newspaper*, with up-to-date world news, interesting, well-illustrated articles, etc.

Incidentally, my father was always the first to read it.

Yours truly,
W. M. FRASER,
30 Newfields, Sporle,
King's Lynn, Norfolk.

Third World books

From Mr T. D. Bridge

Sir, Mr Christopher Martin (January 2) describes the shortage of schoolbooks in southern and East Africa, but I wonder if his suggestion, that British O-level textbooks, probably worn and torn, would be welcome in Africa, is correct?

In about 1965, when I was publishing in eastern Africa, I suggested to Dr Julius Kiano, a leading minister in the first Kenyatta government, that a number of Nairobi companies might contribute to some of the poor up-country schools books, paper and material.

In his friendly and inimitably charming way Dr Kiano made it clear that such a project would smack of paternalism.

Two or three years after my conversation a world chart was designed by a Kenya publisher. It listed on one sheet all the 150 independent nations of the world and gave some 40 facts about each one. Shell bought copies for every secondary school in Kenya and Tanzania. Later Standard Bank did the same for Nigerian schools. Another was printed for Esso in Arabic and sent to all the Libyan schools.

It was a lesson in economics and geography on a single sheet and the sponsor's name appeared briefly at the foot of the chart. The schools were able to understand why these large companies were giving them the chart; it was an advertisement.

Mr Martin, the Tropical Africa Advisory Group (TAAG) of the Department of Trade and Industry, and the British Council might come together to establish a modern successor to the successful Central Office of Information low-price book schemes of the fifties. Their target: the production of a range of new (not second-hand) schoolbooks for donation to the Third World with each book modestly sponsored by a British company as an advertisement for itself.

Yours sincerely,
T. D. BRIDGE,
1 West Street,
Tavistock, Devon.
January 4.

Early leanings

From Dr Desmond Flower

Sir, As a director of a large publishing house I fought, with others, against the change to which Mr Owen refers (January 6) throughout the 1930s, and we lost. The reverse direction for book titles crept in solely to please the retail trade.

If a bookseller buys, say, a dozen copies of a book, he will most probably wish to display them in a pile with one standing upright on top. If the lettering runs from top to bottom, the title is readable on those copies which are lying flat. If the lettering is the other way, the titles of the stacked books are upside down, which booksellers did not like and said so.

This is not the only respect in which, over the years, publishing practice has been dictated to by the retail trade. He who pays the piper . . .

Yours faithfully,
DESMOND FLOWER,
187 Clarence Gate Gardens, NW1.
January 6.

From Mr T. P. Goldingham

Sir, The British Standard for technical manuals (BS4884: Part 2: 1974) states (para 9.9):

Spine. If there is a spine title it shall be printed across the spine if practicable: otherwise it shall be printed along the spine in such a way as to be readable when the manual is lying flat with the front cover uppermost.

It seems sensible to apply this practice to books of all kinds.

Yours etc,
T. P. GOLDINGHAM,
76 Walker Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire.
January 6.

Photo library up for sale

From the Editor of The National Photographic Record

Sir, The report in today's *Times* (January 11) that the BBC is to sell off the BBC Hulton Picture Library, with some ten million images, raises a number of important issues, some of them rather disturbing.

The director-general has stated that this unique collection must go to a "good home" and remain intact in Britain. But what would constitute a "good home"? It is the *National Photographic Record*'s judgement that the best solution would be for the nation itself to acquire the collection as the substantial nucleus of a much-needed national photographic archive, which we have persistently advocated.

There are a number of bodies which could take on this additional responsibility, of which the best resourced and the best qualified are the National Museum of Film and Photography, at Bradford, and the National Library. The library could be bought outright with a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund (for which it seems to be eminently suited) and thereafter would pay its way from commercial sales, as at present – with one important proviso. As a national possession the general public would have direct access to this superlative collection for the first time, a facility which could not be guaranteed if it fell into the hands of a commercial concern.

When the Francis Frith collection came on the market some years ago, a golden opportunity to form the nucleus of a national archive was missed. It would be a thousand pities if the present opportunity was similarly to be lost by default.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WALL (Editor,
The National Photographic Record),
10 Branksome Road,
Norwich,
Norfolk.
January 11.

From the Head of the BBC Secretariat

Sir, I write to reassure Michael Young (Media and Marketing, January 13) in his concern for the Hulton Picture Library.

The conditions of sale will stipulate that the collection is not broken up, remains accessible within the United Kingdom and retains its title. It is, as he says, a priceless national asset and the BBC will be looking for a buyer who will cherish and develop it.

Yours faithfully,
ASHLEY HILL,
Head of Secretariat,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Broadcasting House, W1.
January 13.

University closure

From the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University

Sir, Professor Cassels (January 9) protests that this university was closed from the evening of December 23 to the morning of January 4. Of the intervening 11 days, seven were statutory holidays or weekends. The remaining four days (December 24, 29-31) were taken by agreement with the trade unions as official "university closed days".

These closed days form part of the annual leave entitlement of members of the staff of the university. By arranging the closed days during this period considerable economies can be effected in the university's heating and lighting bills.

During any such closure period any member of the academic staff of the university is free, by prior arrangement with his or her head of department, to gain access to offices and laboratories. Clearly the university is committed unequivocally to promoting the best use of its human and physical academic resources.

Yours sincerely,
GRAEME J. DAVIES,
Vice-Chancellor,
The University of Liverpool,
Senate House,
Abercrombly Square,
Liverpool, Merseyside.
January 12.

From Professor David Rhind

Sir, As Professor Cassels states, university libraries are a most valuable national resource. Could not the Department of Education and Science consider additional payments to the universities to cover the marginal costs of opening their libraries to the general public and Government researchers outside of those periods when they are thronged with "normal" students?

Precedents for this exist in payments to some learned societies to make their specialist knowledge generally available. On present form, though, I fear the Government's response would be to urge the charging of an entrance fee, possibly extended to students themselves!

Yours faithfully,
DAVID RHIND,
University of London,
Birkbeck College,
Department of Geography,
7-15 Gresse Street, W1.
January 10.

Plan for teachers

From Mrs Joyce M. Bird

Sir, "Baker aims to recruit retired executives", you reported on December 29.

When, in my own county, it appears that, having attained the age of 49-plus years, it is virtually impossible to obtain a full-time job in teaching, may I respectfully suggest Mr Baker looks for his "mature" personnel within his own ministry's field.

Others like myself have expertise, accumulated in some cases over a period of more than a quarter of a century, with children in the home, in trade and in the classroom. Would it not be rational to employ this available, highly-trained labour first?

Yours faithfully,
JOYCE M. BIRD,
Aldwincle Lodge,
Kettering, Northamptonshire.

Deputy PM

From Mr Charles H. Gray

Sir, In her letter of acceptance of Lord Whitelaw's resignation the Prime Minister wrote "The position of deputy Prime Minister was unique to you . . ."

This is inaccurate. Attlee held the same non-statutory post in Churchill's wartime Cabinet.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
C. H. GRAY,
23 Finborough Road, SW10.
January 11.

A false note

From Mr Robin Page

Sir, While shopping in Sutton High Street recently, I passed by a very talented blind accordion-player busking for the delight of the seasonal crowd. As I stopped to listen, two small lads were arguing near by. "He's really good", said one. The other shouted: "No, 'e can't be that good, 'e ain't got a tape machine".

I gave him a larger than usual donation to help alleviate his lack of electronic trappings that are clearly so vital to the younger audience.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN PAGE,
50 Alma Road,
Carshalton, Surrey.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 15 1926

Bernard Darwin incorporated the following account of the longest final of the President's Putter between Roger Wethered and Eustace Storey, which was left tied after six extra holes because night had fallen, into a general article on golf in the dark. He concluded that it was not as difficult as it might sound

GOLF IN THE DARK.

TWO HEROES OF RYE.

(FROM OUR GOLF CORRESPONDENT.)

. . . As far as Mr. Wethered and Mr. Storey were concerned, they continued to drive almost as well as ever. It was in the iron play that they became just a little less accurate than they had been. Nor was this surprising for the ball came to look like a light, grey smudge on a dark grey ground, and one could not see how it lay. At the 25th hole Mr. Wethered's ball lay so near a pool of casual water that he might, had he liked, have lifted it. People wondered why he did not, and one solicitous lady was in terror lest he should catch a cold in his left foot. Mr. Wethered, however, gave afterwards a very good reason – namely, that the ball "looked as if it was teed up". And, after all, heroes who get to the 23rd hole do not envisage a possible snuffle on the morrow.

The putting was peculiarly agonizing to watch, since it was impossible to tell whether the ball was or was not travelling straight for the hole. It might disappear suddenly in that dimly-seen black hole or it might not. In point of fact, it never did, but it went horribly near to doing so time after time. The players, I imagine, could not for the last three or four holes discern anything in the nature of a slight borrow; they could only aim at the hole. Sometimes for that very reason we can putt miraculously in the dusk, just as we can cycle up a slope that we cannot see more easily than by day. But the runs and turns in the Rye greens, though subtle, are not to be disregarded, and no doubt they would have holed some of those putts in the light.

In less terrific circumstances golf in pitch darkness can be quite a pleasant amusement. I have played it myself long since, and in the heart of London. This was when I dwelt in one of the Inns of Court. It was no doubt a most undisciplined proceeding, but it was a long time ago, and I have sold my wig, and the Benchers will probably say nothing about it now. At any rate, when night with her dusky wings brooded over the river I used to creep down the stone staircase, an iron hidden like a stiletto under my coat, unlock the gate with a furtive air, and in that garden where once we plucked the roses of York and Lancaster, practise the sacrilegious push-shot. The gutty used to ring out guiltily in the silence, and now and again a ghostly footfall in Crown Office-row sent my heart into my mouth; but no minions of the Temple ever came in pursuit, and if ever the gardener wondered about the divots, he kept, I suppose, his thoughts to himself It was remarkable how seldom a ball was lost. One heard the gentle thud of it pitching in the distance and then marched resolutely forward. More often than not one walked straight on it; sometimes

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 14: The Prince of Wales this morning at Kensington Palace received Mr J. A. Rogers and Mr D. Golden.

His Royal Highness, Patron, the Renaissance Theatre Company Ltd, received Mr Kenneth Branagh at Kensington Palace.

The Prince of Wales, President, the International Council of United World Colleges, received Mr Kingman Brewster at Kensington Palace this morning.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 14: The Duke of Kent today visited the Great Engineers Exhibition at the Royal College of Art, London SW7.

This evening, His Royal Highness, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, attended a Reception for senior representatives of British Industry and Commerce at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London, SW1.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron of The Royal British Legion Women's Section, today received members of the Norfolk County Committee.

Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

Princess Michael of Kent celebrates her birthday today.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.F. Castello y Saenz and Miss O.M. Tickell
The engagement is announced between José, son of the late Señor José Castelló e Yturbide and of Señora Flora Saenz de Castelló, of Mexico, and Oriana, daughter of Sir Crispin Tickell and Mrs William Blackburn, of London.

Mr S.J. Bruce and Miss E.F. Jacomb
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of the Revd and Mrs Francis Bruce, of Bibury Vicarage, Gloucestershire, and Emma, daughter of Sir Martin and Lady Jacomb, of Adderbury, Oxfordshire.

Mr G.H. Andraos and Miss M.H. Perry
The engagement is announced between Georges, son of Mr Habib Andraos and the late Mrs Diana Andraos, of Beirut, Lebanon, and Margaret, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs J.R. Perry, of Crowthorne, Berkshire.

Mr N.J. Beard and Miss H.B. Mousoulides
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of Flight Lieutenant and Mrs John Beard, of North Moreton, Oxfordshire, and Helena, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Antonios Mousoulides, of Nicosia, Cyprus.

Mr W.B. Beausire and Miss A.I.A. Cladakis
The engagement is announced between William, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E.A. Beausire, of St John Street, Oxford, and Anna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs N.N. Cladakis, of Bournemouth.

Mr J.S.F. Bidwell and Miss M.A.S. Coldham
The engagement is announced between Julian, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E.R.W. Bidwell, of South Nutfield, Surrey, and Marie, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.A. Coldham, of Propriano, Corsica.

Mr I.C. Cliff and Miss C.M. Redman
The engagement is announced between Ian, son of the late Mr G.S. Cliff and Mrs D.M.E. Cliff, of Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs N.V. Redman, of Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Mr S.H. Du Bouley and Miss J.E. Armstrong
The engagement is announced between Simon Houffemayne, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Houffemayne Du Bouley, of Mongeham, Kent, and Jayne Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Armstrong, of Kegworth, Leicestershire.

Mr P.J. Duncanson and Miss F.E. Rollo
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr Thomas Duncanson, of Hove, Sussex, and Mrs Ann Duncanson, of Eton, Berkshire, and Fiona, younger daughter of the late Captain Ian Rollo and of Mrs Margo Rollo, of Pollokshields, Glasgow.

Mr S.B. Garratt and Miss F.M. Allardyce
The engagement is announced between Stephen Ben, eldest son of Mr J.B. Garratt, of Egerton, Kent, and Mrs Dinah Whittingham, Spot House Farm, Ham Street, Kent, and Fiona Mary, younger daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs J.G. Allardyce, Caskieben, Nairn.

Mr T.D. Hudson and Miss E.B. Platt
The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of the Rev D.B. and Mrs Hudson, of Sudbury, Suffolk, and Eleanor, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J.W. Platt, of Santiago, Chile.

Mr J.D. Klein and Miss D.A. Hunter
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Louis Klein, of Johannesburg, South Africa, and Deborah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Albert Hunter, of Church Lane, London, N8.

Mr E.J. Malden and Miss J.M.E. Mason
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Malden, of Rochampton, London, SW15, and Jennifer, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs V. Williams, of Bedfield, Suffolk.

Mr G.S. Mildenhall and Miss A.L.W. Newcomb
The engagement is announced between Gary, son of Mr Henry Mildenhall, of Richmond, Surrey, and Mrs Michael Loughton, of Alfriston, Sussex, and Annabel, younger daughter of Mr Hugh Newcombe, of Goudhurst, Kent, and of Mrs Geoffrey Miles, of Ewhurst, Sussex.

Mr W.A. North and Mrs N.J.M. Gulak
The engagement is announced between William Arthur North, of London, and Nancy Jessie Gulak (née Green) of Sulgrave, Northamptonshire.

Mr S. Northam and Miss A.E. Houghton
The engagement is announced between Stephen, first son of Mr and Mrs A.W. Northam, of Eltham, London, SE9, and Alison, second daughter of Mr and Mrs A. Houghton, of Wadebridge, Cornwall.

Mr E.T. Phillips and Miss C.A. Ball
The engagement is announced between Edward Timothy Phillips, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Timothy Phillips, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Carolyn Anne, daughter of the late Mrs A. Ball and of Mr Ian Ball, of Strickland House, Hove, and Turf Lodge, Crowborough, Sussex.

Mr J.N.C. Radcliffe and Miss S.N. Levy
The engagement is announced between John Nicholas Callister, elder son of Mr and Mrs J.D.C. Radcliffe, of Bolton, Lancashire, and Sara Nanette, youngest daughter of Colonel and Mrs W.K. Levy, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr R.E. Ryle-Hodges and Miss J.C. Neal
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr and Mrs E.D.M. Ryle-Hodges, and Carolyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.M. Neal, of Great Sarratt Hall, Sarratt, Hertfordshire.

Mr D.J. Thomas and Miss S.J. Grenside
The engagement is announced between Derek, younger son of Mr and Mrs J.M. Thomas, of Watford, Hertfordshire, and Sara, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Grenside, of Frodsham, Cheshire.

Mr M.J. Trevell and Miss F.E. Boyle
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs G.L. Trevell, of St Nicholas at Wade, Kent, and Fiona, elder daughter of Mr Richard Boyle, of Madrid, and Mrs Diana Crispe, of Hook, Hampshire.

Mr A.J.R. Watson and Miss C.A.L. Cowling
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs F.W Watson, of Cranbrook, Kent, and Caroline, elder daughter of Mrs M.M.F. McGarrigle, of Malton, North Yorkshire, and Mr M.J.R. Cowling, of Chester Row, London.

Mr R.R.J. Whipp and Miss H.B. Millard
The engagement is announced between Barrie, only son of Mr and Mrs John Whipp, of Islington, London, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Millard, of Chelsfield, Kent.

Dr J. Wyndham and Miss S.J. Church
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mrs Maureen Wyndham, of Rhodes, Manchester, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Church, of Abbots Leigh, Bristol.

Luncheons

HM Government
Mr Tim Eggar, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at Admiralty House in honour of Mr Conrad Mselle, Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

HM Government
Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at Lancaster House in honour of the High Commissioner for Malta.

HM Inspectorate of Constabulary
Sir Richard Barratt, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary, presided at the annual luncheon of HM Inspectorate of Constabulary held yesterday at New Scotland Yard. The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for the Home Department, was the principal guest. Among others present were:
Sir Robert Armstrong, the Hon Douglas Hogg, MP, Sir Robert Andrew, Sir Lawrence Byford, Sir James Crane, Sir James Haughton, Sir Philip Myers, Sir Kenneth Newman, Sir Colin Woods, Mr R S Bunyard, Mr N Galbraith, Mr J Chilcot, Mr P Imbert, Mr B P Kavanagh, Mr C McLachlan, Mr J T Manuel, Mr B N Pain, Mr M J Partridge, Mr S E Peck, Mr J A Smith, Mr B Welch and Mr J Woodcock.

Environmental Cleaners' Company
Mr Brian Barclay, Master of the Environmental Cleaners' Company, presided at a luncheon held yesterday at Founders' Hall. The Masters of the Companies of Painter-Stainers, Founders, Stationers and Newspaper Makers, Apothecaries, Spectacle Makers, Makers of Playing Cards, Chartered Surveyors, Insurers, Fuellers and Lightmongers also spoke.

LAS Group
Mr James Souness, managing director, presided at a luncheon at the Head Office of the LAS Group in London yesterday in aid of the English-Speaking Union appeal. The guest of honour was Sir Brian Rix, a Governor of the English-Speaking Union, and the other speakers were Rear-Admiral Richard Heaslip, Director General, and Mr Michael Wynne-Parker, Chairman of the Appeal.

London International Boat Show
Mr David Oliver May, Chairman of National Boat Shows, hosted a luncheon on Wednesday, January 13, at the London International Boat Show at Earls Court. Among the guests were Earl Amherst, Brigadier M.R. Dray and Lord Thomson of Monifieth.

Today's royal engagement

Prince Edward, Patron of the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, will attend the Sir Gerard Newman memorial concert at the Corn Exchange, Cambridge, at 7.30.

Dinners

Actuaries' Company
The Earl of Limerick was the principal speaker at a dinner given by the Actuaries' Company last night at Haberdashers' Hall. Mr D.G. Millard, Master, presided and Mr J.J. Simon also spoke. The Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, the Master of the Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Masters of the Barbers' and Arbitrators' Companies were among those present.

Institute of Legal Executives
Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, was the guest of honour at a dinner held last night at Girdlers' Hall to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Institute of Legal Executives. Mr S.B. Bluett, president, presided. Dr Conrad Swan, York Herald of Arms and Registrar of the College of Arms, presented the institute with Letters Patent of Grant of Arms. Among those present were:
Lord Morris, Mr John Morris, QC, MP, Judge Sir James Miskin, QC, Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, MP, Sir David Hopkin, Sir Jack Jacob, QC, Sir Trevor Skeet, MP, Mr J D R Bradbeer, Mr J Stuart-Smith and the Master of the Girdlers' Company.

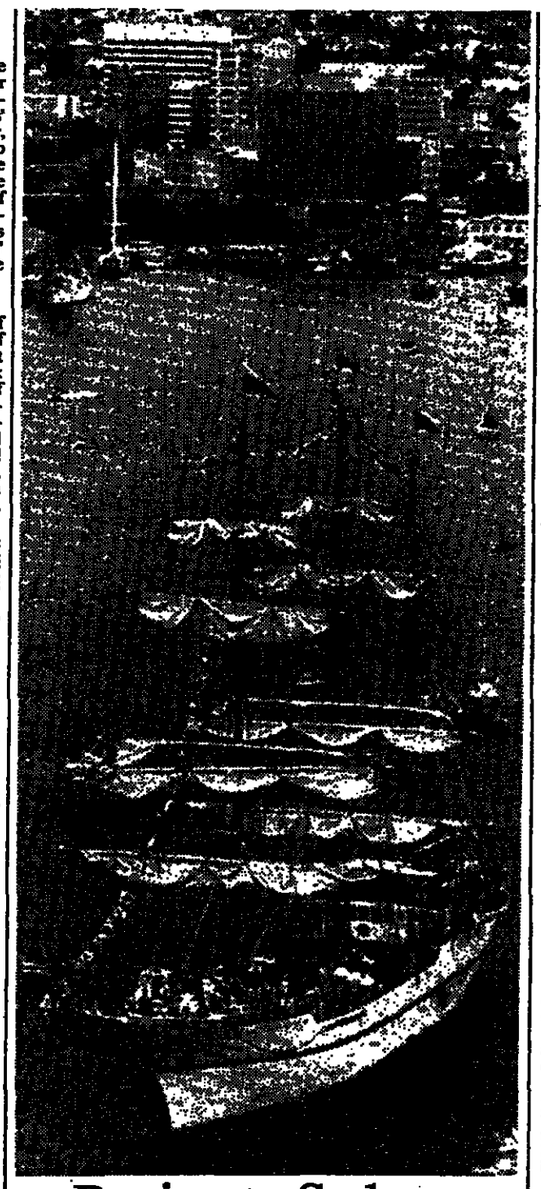
District Planning Officers' Society
The Hon William Waldegrave, MP, Minister of Housing and Planning, was the guest speaker at the annual dinner of the society held at the London School of Economics and Political Science. The President, Mr Michael Ray, presided.

Birthdays today

Mr Frank Bough, broadcaster, 55; Professor R.B. Braithwaite, philosopher, 88; Dr Neil Cossons, director, Science Museum, 49; Lord Dacre of Glanton, 74; Baroness Elliot of Harwood, 85; Professor C. Formston, veterinarian, 81; Professor P.C.C. Garnham, parasitologist, 87; Sir Peter Garran, diplomat, 78; Sir Percival Griffiths, Indian civil servant, 89; Lord Hill of Luton, 84; Sir John Junor, journalist, 69; Lord Lever of Manchester, 74; Lord Simon of Glaisdale, 77; Mr T.C. Skeffington-Lodge, former MP, 83; Mr John Terraine, author, 67; Sir John Wordie, barrister and chairman, wages committees, 64.

Memorial Mass

Dr F.E.A. Manning
Memorial Mass for Dr Frederick Manning was concelebrated by Father David Barnes, Father Ben Lodge, Roman Catholic Chaplain to the City University, and Father Michael Groarke yesterday at the Church of St John the Evangelist, Duncan Terrace, N1. Professor R.N. Franklin, Vice-Chancellor of the City University, and the Rev Jonathan Smith, Anglican Chaplain, gave the readings. Mr Ian Gardiner delivered an address.



Racing to Sydney

The Ecuadorian barque Guayana leaving Hobart, Tasmania, yesterday, at the start of the tall ships race to Sydney as part of Australia's bicentennial celebrations.

Rejected St Paul's plans go on show

By Charles Knevitt
Architecture Correspondent

Six unsuccessful plans for the redevelopment of Paternoster Square, next to St Paul's Cathedral, went on public exhibition in London yesterday. All were attacked by the Prince of Wales in a speech at the Mansion House last month.

A competition was staged last spring by the Paternoster Consortium to find a master plan for the site. Arup Associates were announced the winners in October and are now preparing more detailed plans.

In his Mansion House speech, the Prince accused developers generally of being "worse than the Luftwaffe" and charged planners with the "rape of Britain".

The six competitors whose work is on show are, from Britain, Norman Foster, Richard Rogers, Stirling and Wilford, and Richard MacCormac. Skidmore Owings and Merrill, of Chicago, and Arata Isozaki, of Japan, are the two overseas competitors.

Two of the plans, by Foster and Isozaki, almost ignore the presence of St Paul's to the south and east of the site, while Rogers echoes the small lanes and courts of the surrounding area, and opens up dramatic views of the cathedral from an underground shopping centre next to the Tube station.

The assessors recommended the appointment of Rogers to design an atrium within the final scheme, together with one other building. Other architects may also contribute to the final development.

Designs by Stirling, SOM and particularly MacCormac attempt to reflect the sweep and massing of existing City blocks. MacCormac's scheme is almost baroque.

Several of the plans go some way to meeting the Prince's wish that the medieval street plan of pre-war Paternoster is reconstructed, using "the kinds of materials that Wren might have used – soft red brick and stone dressings perhaps, and the ornament and detail of classical architecture."

But the playful classicism of post-modernism is more evident in the entries than any serious attempt at a classical revival.

The winning plan by Arup is unlikely to be unveiled for several months and is being kept a closely guarded secret.

● The exhibition is at 9H Gallery, 26-28 Cramer Street, London, W1, until February 27.

Sir Charles Jones

A thanksgiving service for the life of General Sir Charles Jones will be held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea at 11 am on Thursday, February 18, 1988.

Those requiring tickets are asked to apply to the Corps Secretary, Regimental Headquarters RE, Brompton Barracks, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4UG, by February 5, 1988.

Marriage

Dr J.V. Waller and Miss A.S. Davidson
The marriage took place on Monday, December 21, 1987, in New York between Dr John V. Waller, son of the late Dr and Mrs Newton B. Waller, and Miss Anne Seymour Davidson, of Isle au Haut, Maine and New York, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Kenneth S.M. Davidson.

THE DAVID WATT MEMORIAL PRIZE

The tragic and untimely death of David Watt in March 1987 robbed the country of a man widely regarded as one of the outstanding writers, thinkers and political commentators of our generation.

The David Watt Memorial Prize is being introduced and administered by RTZ to commemorate his life and work. Those eligible for an annual prize of £2,000 will be writers who are actively engaged in writing for newspapers and journals, in the English language, on international and political matters. They will be those whose writings are judged to have made outstanding contributions toward the clarification of international and political issues and the promotion of greater understanding of such issues.

The closing date for entries and nominations in 1988 is 1st March. For full details, please write to: The Administrator, The David Watt Memorial Prize, RTZ Limited, 6 St. James's Square, London SW1Y 4LD.

Science report

Clearing gulls from rubbish tips

By Gareth Haw Davies

A flock of gulls raking greedily over freshly deposited rubbish is a familiar sight at refuse tips.

It has been assumed that tips, with their apparently unlimited supplies of food, are places where gulls feed whenever they wish and that some are inveterate tip feeders, returning day after day.

New research suggests that the gull may be less dependent on this source of freely available food than the density of the wheeling raucous flocks might suggest; and that where tip-feeding gulls are a problem, particularly near airport runways, it may be relatively easy to deter them.

In one of the first detailed studies of the importance of refuse tips to the herring gull, researchers concluded that while a few herring gull appeared day after day at the same time, the general picture was that the tip was not the main or even the preferred feeding site for most individuals. It was merely a supplementary food source.

Four scientists at the department of zoology, Durham University, studied more than 2,500 individually marked birds captured at Coxhoe refuse tip, County Durham. About half the material dumped was household refuse and this was the main source of food at the tip for the gulls.

It was evident that many more individual herring gulls visited the tip in one week than the number present at a given time suggested. The maximum number of birds present at any one time was 509. The researchers estimated a maximum of 840 individuals visiting during a day and 2,745 individuals during the week.

It appeared that the herring gulls decided at dawn at their roost on the coast whether to move inland, out to sea or remain on the coast.

Most adult gulls did not visit the tip on consecutive days. In one week the average gull visited it only 1.7 times and the researchers confirmed that most birds were not visiting other tips when not at Coxhoe.

The gulls were clearly inhibited by the comings and goings of lorries and rarely fed in their presence. But they accepted the working of a bulldozer which covered the refuse. Their most favoured feeding time was when the tip workers stopped for lunch and vehicle activity ceased.

The team concludes that where gulls are a problem the use of a small dumping area; daily covering of refuse and dumping throughout the day including lunchtime would have a considerable effect on the amount of feeding the gulls can achieve and presumably on their numbers at the tip.

Source: Journal of Applied Ecology, 1987, 24, pages 7, 8 and 9-800.

OBITUARY

AIR VICE-MARSHAL J. WORRALL

Battles of France and Britain

Air Vice-Marshal John Worrall, CB, DFC, who died on January 14, at the age of 76, was a fighter pilot who commanded the famous 32 squadron at Biggin Hill for four months in 1940, during a period covering the Blitzkrieg, Dunkirk, and the first month of the Battle of Britain.

Though he handed over command of the squadron midway through the Battle of Britain, he nevertheless led it during a period of hectic operations. Indeed, by the time the Battle proper opened, No 32 was one of the most combat-hardened units in the Air Force.

Born in India, Worrall was educated at Cranleigh and passed through Cranwell, joining No 1 Squadron, then flying Hawker Fury biplane fighters, in 1932. Between Squadron appointments in the 1930s he also had three years in Peking, studying Chinese languages.

On May 10, 1940, he was appointed to command 32 Squadron (Hurricanes), which had been resident at Biggin Hill since before the war. The German Blitzkrieg had begun on that very day, and Worrall led his squadron in sortie after sortie as the RAF tried to break up German dive bomber and fighter formations which harried the British Expeditionary Force during its advance into Belgium and its subsequent retreat to the sea.

Often the squadron went over to France, flying missions all day from French airfields, before returning back across the Channel to rest, at night.

During the Dunkirk evacuation the air battles became even more fierce, and 32 Squadron was heavily engaged in the desperate struggle which raged thousands of feet above the Dunkirk beaches, generally invisible, alas, to the exhausted troops, who had no knowledge of the RAF's prodigious efforts to protect them against strafing attacks.

After the Dunkirk evacuation, No 32 prepared for the Battle of Britain from its Biggin Hill base, and when the Luftwaffe's offensive began in earnest in July, Worrall and his men found themselves involved in much fighting against heavy odds. By August 2, the squadron had already shot down 43 enemy aircraft. (It was later to be the first RAF Squadron to claim 100 kills).

On August 16, 1940, Worrall handed over command of No 32 to Wing Commander Mike Crossley (whose obituary appeared in *The Times* on December 9). Worrall's experience and talents were now employed on fighter control, at Biggin Hill, a station which continued to function throughout the Battle, in spite of having the severest damage inflicted on it by the Luftwaffe.

He was awarded the DFC in 1940. From 1941 he was on the Staff at Fighter Command, and was mentioned in despatches in 1944.

After the war his commands included RAF Kai Tak, Hong Kong, and he was on the staff of Flying Training Command in the 1950s. He was later Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Training). He ended his career as Senior Air Staff Officer of the Near East Air Force.

He retired in 1963, and went to live in Majorca.

Worrall was a keen sportsman and was chairman of the RAF Ski and Winter Sports Association from 1953 to 1960. He was chairman of the Battle of Britain Fighter Association from 1958 to 1960.

He married, in 1967, Barbara, a daughter of Vincent Robb.

MR GABRIEL WHITE

Mr Gabriel White, CBE, who died on January 13, at the age of 85, was a highly respected member of the Arts Council of Great Britain, where, with notable success, he held the post of director of art from 1958 until 1970.

White excelled as an administrator – much more so, it must be said, than as an artist. But it was with the artist's eye that he carried out his administrative duties – mainly guiding the council's extensive exhibition programme – and which made him sympathetic to, and popular with, the artists with whom he dealt, as well as with museum and gallery people.

He painted before the war, but more or less put his brushes aside until his retirement. He could lay claim to having been the last artist to have painted the Crystal Palace before it was burned down in 1937. He was actually at his easel there on the afternoon when the fire broke out. He had intended to make a series of paintings depicting the interior as well as the exterior of the building, but this was not to be.

Gabriel Ernest Edward Francis White was born on November 29, 1902. He was educated at Downside and Trinity College, Oxford. He served during the war with the Royal Engineers – in camouflage, where his talents came into their own.

In 1945, he joined the fledgling Arts Council as assistant art director, where he was at first conspicuous for his khaki shirts. He retained this post until 1958, when he took over as director of art. White, perhaps more than anyone, set the tone for the council's policies and practices, a tone best described as "closeness to the art".

His tenure saw many important exhibitions, most of which he had a direct hand in arranging. Notable among these was the last great Mexican exhibition at the Tate in 1953 which ran the gamut of Mexican art. The Mexican government afterwards awarded White the Order of the Aztec Eagle for his labours.

He was still director of art when the Hayward Gallery marked its arrival, in 1968, with three powerful exhibitions: Matisse, van Gogh, and frescoes from Florence. It was a triple "triumph" for White whose guiding hand had earlier been felt at the Royal Academy and at the Victoria and Albert Museum. While the Hayward was being built he insisted that some daylight should be allowed into the upstairs galleries.

After his retirement from the Arts Council he organized, as he had in earlier years, exhibitions for the Council of Europe. He was adept in his dealings with museum directors and government officials from overseas.

White also had more time for his own painting, mainly landscapes, in oils, watercolours and pastels. His own models were Renoir and Sickert (he published a book on the latter, in 1952). A later book, published in 1979, looked at the work of Edward Ardizzone, the brother of White's first wife.

He held a retrospective exhibition of his prints and etchings only a few years ago when in his eighties.

White was an intelligent, genial and generous man – a painter by choice; an administrator almost by accident. The bohemian in him took wings each summer when he took his large family to a different corner of France, there to paint or to open a bottle at a pavement café.

His first wife, whom he married in 1928, died in 1958. His second wife, Jane, whom he married in 1963, survives him with the two sons of the first marriage and the son and daughter of the second.

DR L. R. BISHOP

Dr Laurence Robert (L. R.) Bishop, who died on January 10, at the age of 84, spent his working life in the service of brewing, on which he was a formidable authority, both in this country and abroad.

After studying botany and chemistry at Trinity College, Cambridge, he opted for brewing because it afforded him the opportunity for continued research in plant biochemistry.

His work at the Rothamstead Experimental Station – work which was financed by the Institute of Brewing – concentrated on developing pure strains of barley and yeast. In those days, the quality of barley was judged simply by running through the fingers; Bishop made that process much more scientific, leading to beer of more consistent quality.

He published over 100 original papers on such subjects as head retention, beer colour, and haze. His work ranged over the whole of the brewing process.

Despite all the scientific analyses, when it came to tasting Bishop was a firm believer in the "three glass test". The blindfolded subject was given three glasses, two of which contained the same brew, and of these two (once indentified) he had to choose the tastier.

Immediately after the war he went on a scientific delegation to study German brewing techniques.

On his return, he went into industry and joined Watney's where he was head chemist until 1970, and a consultant to the Watney, Mann and Trueman group until 1975.

He was also chairman of the European Brewing Convention analysis committee where he played a major part in international standardization of brewing practices. Cambridge and Birmingham universities awarded him honorary doctorates for his work, and, in 1967, St Lieven Technical School, in Ghent, made him a professor. In 1970 he was awarded the Horace Brown Medal of the Institute of Brewing.

Bishop himself enjoyed a glass of beer, but in modest quantities.

His wife, Elsie, died before him. He is survived by their two sons.

MR DEX HARRISON

Mr Dex Harrison, chief architect of the pleasure gardens which formed part of the 1951 Festival of Britain, has died at the age of 78.

During the war he worked for the Ministry of Works, and was one of those who realized that prefabrication would be a key to the planned post-war building programme. In 1945, he produced for the government a seminal work on the subject, *A Survey of Prefabrication*.

His own practice was concerned mainly with designing schools and colleges. Although innovative, he always remembered that he was designing for people.

His hobby had once been vintage cars. In retirement, he turned to restoring pictures and musical instruments.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and their son and daughter.

MICHAEL HADJIMICHEV

Michael Hadjimichev, well-known as an opera producer at Glyndebourne and Wexford, died on December 28, in Fribourg, Switzerland, (while rehearsing *Cosi fan tutte*). He was 74.

His father was a Bulgarian who was Minister in London in the 1920s. His mother was American. His first production was of *The Mikado*, in the British embassy, Sofia.

At the end of the war he was a liaison officer with British forces in Greece but returned to Bulgaria; where, with his wife, Anna, he became a leading producer with the Sofia Opera. He was invited to produce the first Russian opera at Glyndebourne.

He had an acute sense of British life, and enjoyed telling how Glyndebourne's founder, John Christie, preferred to call him "Michael Hatching-mischief."

MR GEOFFREY WHITING

Mr Geoffrey Whiting, who died on New Year's Day, aged 68, was one of the founding fathers of the post-war studio pottery movement in England, following in the footsteps of his friend, Bernard Leach. His teapots, which are particularly well known, are some of the best ever made and much sought after.

Whiting trained as an architect, but his interest in pottery was kindled by contact with village potters during war service in India.

He taught himself, using as his guide Leach's *A Potter's Book*.

He established Avoncroft Pottery in Worcestershire, where he also trained students from overseas.

In 1972, he moved to Canterbury, where he developed a pottery at the King's School.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Molière, baptized, Paris, 1622; Louis de Rouvroy Duc de Saint-Simon, diarist, Paris, 1675; Franz Grillparzer, dramatist, Vienna, 1791; Thomas Crofton Croker, folklorist, Cork, 1798; Pierre Proudhon, socialist, Besancon, France, 1809; Maze De La Roche, novelist, Ontario, 1885; Martin Luther King, Atlanta, Georgia, 1929.

DEATHS: Fanny Kemble, actress, London, 1893; Matthew Brady, photographer of the American Civil War, New York, 1896; Rosa Luxembourg, socialist, murdered, Berlin, 1919.

Bronze medallions for rescue heroes

A farm worker and a fireman who tried to rescue a man trapped in a grain silo at a farm in Wales, have been awarded posthumously the Carnegie Hero Fund Trust's highest honour, its bronze medallion. All three died.

Mr William Colin Griffiths, aged 23, of Plas Captain, Brynford, Clwyd, was trying to rescue his brother, Alun, when he was overcome by fumes. Firemen Edwin Goodman, aged 36, a father of four, collapsed after tying a rope to each brother.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lord Jauncey, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, to be a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, in succession to Lord Mackay of Clashfern.

Sir Lawrence Byford, Sir Derek Dodson, Rear Admiral N. H. Mallin and **Mr J. L. Roughton** to be Deputy Lieutenants of Lincolnshire.

Mrs Rosemary Nicholson to be a Governor of the Museum of London.

Mr Colin Walker to be Chairman of the Harwich Harbour Board.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

And the Lord came, and stood and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth. 1 Samuel 3:10

BIRTHS

BARRINGTON HAYNES - On January 12th, to Alison (née Bush) and Edward, a son, William, a brother for Charlotte.

BRENNAN-MURPHY - On December 31st 1987, to Gail and Peter, a daughter, Francesca Caroline.

CLIVE-SMITH - On December 7th 1987, at Queen Charlotte's, to Robin (née Allen) and Martin, a daughter Emily Katherine.

COWDREY - On January 9th, at RAF Hospital Wegberg, to Susan (née Anderson) and Michael (DM30 Sqn), a son, James Macgregor Anderson, a brother for Kate.

DAVIES - On January 11th, at University College Hospital, to Caroline (née Reid) and David, a daughter Olivia Constance.

EDGE - On January 12th, at Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, to Karen (née Speed) and Tony, a son, Eric James.

FOSBERY-WINGFIELD - On January 11th, to Lucinda and Mark (R 4th Hussars), a son.

GOODWIN - On January 12th, to Sue (née Campbell) and Steven, a son, Henry Claude.

HARRISON - On January 12th, to Francis (née West-Meads) and Tom, a daughter, Sophie Lydia.

PRYCE-HARRISON - On January 8th, at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, Chiswick, to Anna and Chris, a daughter, Rebecca Louise, a sister for John Sebastian.

MARRIAGES

BRIDGE-LIGHTLEY On Tuesday January 12th at Oxford, Michael Dunstall to Catherine Olley.

GARRETT-BARLEY - On January 9th, at Keble College Chapel, Oxford, Dr Ian Trevor Garrett, son of Mr and Mrs John Garrett, to Dr Jane Elizabeth Barley, daughter of Dr Colin and Dr Joan Barley.

SILVER ANNIVERSARIES

KINGSTON: Uncle Sam & Aunt Frances, congratulations on your Silver Wedding Anniversary! Delighted you've survived this time together! Lots of love & best wishes Julie Ann.

DEATHS

BARRATT - On January 12th 1988, peacefully at Minsterley, John Barratt, husband of Paula, father of Kathy, Elizabeth and Timothy.

BERRIMAN - On January 13th, 1988, Dr. Walter Montcalm, Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium, Hoop Lane, NW11 on Tuesday 19th January, at 2.00pm. No flowers please but donations if desired to the Musicians Benevolent Fund.

BOND - On January 9th 1988, peacefully at home, Professor George Bond F.R.S. formerly of Glasgow University, Botany Department, aged 81. Funeral both there January 8th at Strathblane Trinity Congregational Church, Glasgow.

COKER - On January 11th 1988, at the Thames Valley Hospice, Windsor, peacefully in her sleep after an important loving journey, Mary, wife to Peter. Funeral Service to be held at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Stockwell on Thursday 19th January at 10am. Flowers only, donations if desired, to Thames Valley Hospice, Windsor. Enquiries to David Goode, The House of Grace, Dublin. Cremation. Tel:(0)46775741

GLARK - On January 10th 1988, Robert Clark, Yacht Designer of London W1.

CLEVELAND - On January 11th, Margaret in her 81st year, peacefully at Burnham Lodge (formerly of Farnham Royal) beloved wife of the late George Cleveland and a dearly loved sister and aunt. Funeral Service at Marlow Parish Church, (adjoining the cemetery) on Tuesday, January 19th, at 11.30 am followed by cremation at Oakley Green (flowers (no wreaths please) to Sawyer Funeral services 30 West Street, Marlow, Tel: Marlow 3331, or donations to The Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Wishing Well Appeal.

COMER - On January 13th, Judy dearly loved wife of Colin and mother of Ian and Fiona Mann. Funeral at All Saints, East Grinstead at 11am on Wednesday January 20th. Flowers to: J Small & Son, 6 Chapel Street, Winchester.

CRAFT - On January 12th 1988, peacefully, Kathleen Craft of Cuttlestock, Dorset, much loved mother of Caroline Loftin, godmother of Evelyn Gale and great aunt of Charles and Rupert Loftin and of Madeleine Miles. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Gore Cross on Saturday 16th January at 12.30 pm. Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent if wished to St Mary's Church Restoration Fund.

CROOM - On January 12th, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, after a long illness courageously borne and a lifetime devoted to the service of others, Dorothy Mary (Daisy) O.B.E., A.R.R.C. Greatly loved wife of Roger, much loved mother of her family and all other members of the Bourne and friends. Funeral service at St John's, Spencer Hill, Wimbledon on Thursday January 21st at 11.30am, followed by private cremation at Putney Vale. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to The Nurses Benevolent Fund, St Thomas's Hospital, London SE1.

ELLIOTT - On January 11th, peacefully at Sussex Heights, Marlborough, Elizabeth (Betty Odell), aged 85. Beloved mother of John and deeply mourned by her daughter-in-law Veronica and her grand-daughters Sarah, Christian and Natasha. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Marlborough, Wiltshire, Monday January 18th, 12 noon.

FYFE - On January 13th, Michael David, as a result of a car accident, outside Oxford. Deeply loved by his wife and family. Funeral Private: No flowers. Donations if wished to National Trust of Scotland.

GLENNELL - On January 14th, after illness bravely borne with exhilarating courage, Anne Addison, beloved wife of Cecil Glennell, a loving and dearly loved mother and grandmother. Private cremation, no flowers, but donations if wished to Help the Hospices, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1. A service of thanksgiving will be held for her at Christ Church, Victoria Rd, Kensington W8 at 12.00 noon, Tuesday 26th January.

GREENHILL - On January 12th 1988, peacefully at Lowood House, Sunningdale, Iris, elder daughter of the late Cecil and Lady Lilian Greenhill. Funeral Wednesday 20th January, at All Fools Church, South Ascot, at 1.30 pm. Followed by private interment in Lees Cemetery. Instead of flowers, donations, if desired to St Edmund's Hospice, Ely Place, Holborn Circus, or donations to Ronald McDonald House, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, c/o Cyril Lovegrove, 216 High Street, Sunningdale, SL5 9NP.

HARE - On January 13th, peacefully in Cirencester Nursing Home, Up Ashby, Mary Elizabeth, aged 84, widow of Basil, and much loved mother of Elizabeth, Patrick and Christopher and grandmother to Jamie, Cate, Rebecca, Nicholas and Julian. Funeral Service at Aldsworth Church, Bibury, N. Devon, on Tuesday 19th January at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research, C/O Lloyds Bank, Cirencester. Hunter Thanksgiving Service at Odiham Parish Church, at 11.30 on Friday 12th February.

HINTON - On January 12th 1988, at The South Middlesex Hospital, Kitty, aged 97, widow of the late Edwin Hinton, R.B.A. Cremation private. Family flowers only.

HOLLOWAY - On January 12th, Margaret in her 81st year, peacefully at Burnham Lodge (formerly of Farnham Royal) beloved wife of the late George Cleveland and a dearly loved sister and aunt. Funeral Service at Marlow Parish Church, (adjoining the cemetery) on Tuesday, January 19th, at 11.30 am followed by private cremation. Flowers (no wreaths please) to Sawyer Funeral services 30 West Street, Marlow, Tel: Marlow 3331, or donations to The Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Wishing Well Appeal.

HOWARD - On January 13th, 1988, at Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, Alistair Mary, Professor Emeritus of Classical Church of Scotland, Dean Path, Pilton Place, Edinburgh at 1.15pm on Friday January 15th and thereafter at Mortonhall Crematorium at 2.40pm.

FLEDGE - On January 13th, peacefully at Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, Sydney Ernest Bridger, aged 80 years. Former Assistant Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall. Husband of Helen and dear father of Christopher, Jacqueline and Sarah. Funeral service at St Luke's Church, Tutsham on Tuesday January 19th at 11.00am, followed by private cremation. Flowers only please, donations for the Trudgy Hospital, Seaton Appeal, c/o Tarbay & District Funeral Service, Maidenwell, Torquay.

FRENCH-BRAST - On January 12th, peacefully at Sans Hill Nursing Home, Shelley, Joan Cecily Rosina, mother of Ian, Christopher, Michael and Caroline. The funeral service will take place at Chelmsford Cremation Chapel on Tuesday 19th January at 11.30 am. Flowers may be sent to Bates Smith & Co., 76 Promenade Road, Cheltenham, Glos.

FREWSTONE - On January 11th, peacefully at Ashwell Hospital, Kenneth, much loved husband of Joanna, loving father of Richard and Alan and dear friend and grandfather. Carolee, Michael and Suzy. Funeral Rendall, Park Crematorium, Woodlands Road, Leatherhead. Tuesday January 19th, 3.00pm. Flowers, Director James & Thomas Ltd., Mill Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 3AL.

HEGGARTY - On January 10th, at home in Long Island, New York, Jane Gertrude (Gay) aged 87, wife of the late Hedlam Heggarty and dearest mother of William Martin.

HOGGLEN - On January 13th, 1988, at Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, Alistair Mary, Professor Emeritus of Classical Church of Scotland, Dean Path, Pilton Place, Edinburgh at 1.15pm on Friday January 15th and thereafter at Mortonhall Crematorium at 2.40pm.

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FREWSTONE - On January 12

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of *the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to* The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



BOOKING KEY
☆ Seats available
★ Returns only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE

LONDON

☆ **ACTING SHAKESPEARE:** Ian McKellen plays Hamlet, Falstaff, Romeo, Juliet and many more in award-winning solo show. All proceeds to the London Lighthouse AIDS Hospice. Extended until Jan 30.
Playhouse Theatre, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (01-*839 4401*). *Tube: Embankment.* Mon-Thurs 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 6.30-8.30pm and 9-11pm, £4-£14.

☆ **ANDROMACHE:** Janet Suzman plays Racine's tragic heroine in the opening production of Jonathan Miller's season of classics.
Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Previews tonight 7.30pm; tomorrow 4pm and 7.45pm; Mon 7.30pm. Opens Tues 7pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm. £6-£14.

☆ **BELLS ARE RINGING:** Lesley Mackie in Jule Styne's tune-packed telephone musical.
Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (01-858 7755). Station: Greenwich. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mat Sat 2.30pm, £3-£10.

☆ **ENTERTAINING STRANGERS:** Peter Hall's promenade production of life, drink and religion in mid-Victorian Dorchester. With Judi Dench and Tim Piggott-Smith.
National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2252). Tube: Waterloo. Tonight 7.30pm, £7.50. (D)

☆ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** Dame Hilda Bracket bestows upon us her Lady Bracknell and Dr Evadne Hinge offers her Miss Prism in a cunning adaptation of Mr Wilde's original.
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-930 7765). Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment. Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm. £8.50-£13.50.

☆ **MAN TO MAN:** Tilda Swinton's *tour de force in Manfred Karge's* play as the woman who becomes her dead husband. A Traverse production.
Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Fri 8-9.30pm, mat Sat 4-5.30pm, £6-£10 (£4 on Mons). (D)

☆ **OLD YEAR'S EVE:** New Peter Speyer play set at the turn of the year on a remote South African vineyard.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-628 8795/01-638 8891). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Tonight 7.30pm, £7.50.

☆ **THE PROPHET:** Renu Setna's one-man show for Carib Theatre adapted from Kahlil Gibran's mystical writings.
Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury and Islington. Mon-Sat 8pm, £4-£6.

☆ **SEPARATION:** David Suchet and Saskia Reeves as playwright and actress in Tom Kempinski's two-hander, transferred from Hampstead.
Comedy Theatre, Panton Street SW1 (01-930 2578). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thurs 8-10.15pm, Fri and Sat 6-8.15pm and 8.45-11pm, £4-£13.50. (D)

☆ **A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS:** New Alan Ayckbourn comedy: is honesty the commercially best policy?
National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (01-928 2252) Tube: Waterloo. Tonight 7.15pm, £6-£13. (D)

LONG RUNNERS: ☆ **Beyond Reasonable Doubt:** Queens Theatre (01-734 1166). . . ☆ **The Business of Murder:** Mayfair Theatre (01-629 3036). . . ★ **Cats:** New London Theatre (01-405 0072, cc 01-404 4079). . . ☆ **Chess:** Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). . . ☆ **Follies:** Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5399). . . ☆ **42nd Street:** Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/9/0). . . ☆ **High Society:** Victoria Palace Theatre (01-834 1317). . . ☆ **Les Liaisons Dangereuses:** Ambassadors Theatre (01-836 6111, cc 01-836 1171). . . ☆ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). . . ★ **Les Misérables:** Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). . . ☆ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). . . ☆ **Nunsense:** Fortune Theatre (01-836 2238). . . ★ **Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's Theatre (01-839 2244). . . ☆ **Run For Your Wife:** Criterion Theatre (01-930 3216). . . ☆ **Serious Money:** Wyndhams Theatre (01-836 3028). . . ☆ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Theatre (01-828 8665). . . ☆ **And Then There Were None:** Duke of York's Theatre (01-836 5122).

OUT OF TOWN

SOUTHAMPTON: ☆ **Love Off The Shelf:** New musical: "everything you wanted to know about romantic novels but were afraid to ask".
Nuffield Theatre, University Road (0703 671771). Mon-Thurs 7.30-10pm, Fri and Sat 8-10.30pm, mat Sat 4-6.30pm, £4.90-£8.

STRATFORD: ☆ **Fashion:** Doug Lucie's gripping and strongly cast study of corruption of loyalties in a PR agency.
The Other Place, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623). Tonight 7.30-10.30pm, £6-£7.

STRATFORD: ☆ **Hyde Park:** Courtship comedy by James Shirley, the RSC's first venture into Caroline comedy.
Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623). Tonight 7.30-10.15pm, £3-£13.

STRATFORD: ☆ **Julius Caesar:** New production directed by Terry Hands, with Joseph O'Conor as Caesar.
Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon (0789 295623). Tonight 7.30pm, £3.50-£17.50.

FILMS

■ **Also on national release**
☎ **Advance booking possible**

CRY FREEDOM (PG): Richard Attenborough's bumper bundle of exciting spectacle and liberal sentiments; with Kevin Kline as journalist Donald Woods, drawn into the case of South African activist Steve Biko (Denzel Washington) (158 min).
☎ **Empire Leicester Square** (01-437 1234). Progs 2.00, 5.40, 8.30, 11.45.

THE DEAD (U): John Huston's final film — a poignant adaptation of James Joyce's story about a post-Christmas party in Dublin, full of mellow reflections on life, marriage and death. With Angelica Huston, Donal McCann (82 min).
☎ **Lumière** (01-836 0691). Progs 1.40, 3.30, 5.20, 7.15, 9.15. (D)

■ **FATAL ATTRACTION (18):** A spurned lover (Glenn Close) takes revenge on Michael Douglas, his wife (Anne Archer) and family. Adrian Lyne directs this unsettling thriller (119 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-935 9772). Progs 2.30, 5.20, 8.10, 11.00.
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs 2.45, 5.30, 8.25, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 2.30, 5.25, 8.20, 11.15.
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.15, 6.10, 9.15.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 12.55, 3.10, 5.40, 8.15, 11.15.
☎ **Plaza** (01-200 0200). Progs 1.30, 4.15, 7.00, 9.30, 12.00.

FOUR ADVENTURES OF REINETTE AND MIRABELLE (U): Eric Rohmer's latest *divertissement* — four improvised episodes in the lives of two girls, the rural Mirabelle (Jessica Forde) and the urban Reinette (Joëlle Miguel) (95 min).
Chelsea (01-351 3742). Progs 2.25, 4.30, 6.40, 8.50.

■ **INNER SPACE (PG):** Imaginative comic fantasy from the Spielberg factory. Dennis Quaid is the miniaturized Air Force pilot implanted by error into the body of a meek grocery clerk (Martin Short). Joe Dante directs (119 min).
☎ **Cannon Fulham Road** (01-370 2636). Progs 2.30, 6.15, 9.10.

LITTLE DORRIT (U): Worthy and painstaking Dickens adaptation in two three-hour parts with newcomer Sarah Pickering as the daughter born in a debtor's prison. Derek Jacobi as the troubled hero, and a lengthy cast of notables. Written, edited, designed and directed by Christine Edzard (180 min).
☎ **Curzon West End** (01-439 4805). *Progs: Part one: Fri, Sat, Tues and* Thurs 2.30; Fri, Mon and Wed 7.30. Part two: Mon and Wed 2.30; Sat, Sun, Tues and Thurs 7.30.

MANON DES SOURCES (PG): Ten years after the death of Jean de Florette, his 18-year-old daughter still haunts the hills over-looking the farm stolen from her father by Soubeyran, played by Yves Montand (120 min).
Curzon Mayfair (01-449 3737). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.

■ **MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE (PG):** Live-action, feature-length advert for He-Man, Skeletor and other fantasy toys, with Dolph Lundgren as the ultimate warrior defending the universe against Frank Langella's forces of evil. Directed by Gary Goddard (100 min).
Cannon Bayswater (01-229 4149). Progs 1.15, 3.50, 6.10, 8.30, 11.15.
Cannon Edgware Road (01-723 5901). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.15, 8.30, 11.20.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.30, 3.35, 5.55, 8.10, 11.15.

NO WAY OUT (15): Polished version of a *film noir* classic, *The Big Clock*, with a new Pentagon *setting and a few extra twists.* Gene Hackman plays the Defence Secretary with a crime to cover up; Kevin Costner is the luckless investigator. Roger Donaldson directs (114 min).
Odeon Leicester Square (01-931 6111). Progs 12.45, 3.15, 5.45, 8.25, 11.15.

■ **PREDATOR (18):** Arnold Schwarzenegger action *spectacular, featuring lots of blood,* laser beams, and a very slight moral conscience.
Schwarzenegger plays the leader of a military rescue team, faced with an other-worldly foe. Directed by John McTiernan (107 min).
Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5252). Progs 11.10, 1.40, 4.10, 6.50, 9.45.
Odeon Marble Arch (01-723 2011). Progs 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.30, 11.00.

■ **ROXANNE (PG):** *Cyrano de Bergerac* reworked by and for Steve Martin, as a fire chief whose nose seems to prevent true love (107 min).
Cannon Oxford Street (01-636 0310). Progs 1.30, 3.35, 6.00, 8.20, 11.15.
Cannon Royal (01-930 6915). Progs 1.40, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20, 11.15. (D)
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01-722 5905). Progs 1.50, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40. (D)

■ **SPACEBALLS (PG):** The time for a parody of *Star Wars* has long since passed, but Mel Brooks delivers one regardless. With John Candy, Rick Moranis, Brooks himself, and a scattering of amusing sight gags (96 min).
Odeon Kensington (01-602 6644). Progs 1.30, 3.50, 6.15, 8.40.

THE STEPFATHER (18): Drama from thriller writer Donald E Westlake, with Terry O'Quinn as the psychotic striving for a new identity after murdering his family. Directed by Joseph Ruben; with Jill Schoelen and Shelly Hack (98 min).
Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 2.25, 4.25, 6.30, 8.35, 11.15.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 2.15, 4.25, 6.30, 8.36, 11.15.

TOUGH GUYS DON'T DANCE (18): Norman Mailer writes and directs this extravagant thriller adapted from his own novel, with Ryan O'Neal as the wastrel writer increasingly surrounded by dead bodies. Part parody, part serious. With Isabella Rossellini, Debra Sandlund (109 min).
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.00, 8.25, 11.15.
Cannon Panton Street (01-930 0631). Progs 2.30, 5.00, 7.25, 9.55.

WISH YOU WERE HERE (15): David Leland's poignant comedy about a *teenage girl's sexual adventures in* a drab seaside town. Marvellous playing by Emily Lloyd (92 min).
☎ **Odeon Haymarket** (01-930 2738). Progs 11.40, 1.55, 4.15, 6.35, 9.05, 11.30.

DANCE

☆ **KREUTZER SONATA:** Dancers *and musicians from Prague* perform Pavel Smok's work as guests on a programme by Sadlers Well's Royal Ballet, which also includes new ballets by Graham Lustig and Michael Corder and David Bentley's brilliant *Allegri Diversi.*
Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916). 7.30-10.15pm, £3.50-£16.

☆ **THE NUTCRACKER:** Peter Darrell's production for Scottish Ballet.
Theatre Royal, Hope Street, Glasgow (041 331 1234). 7.15-9.30pm, £2.50-£15.



In the above painting by Louis Desanges, Lieutenant William Kerr of the 24th Bombay Native Infantry is shown in the action for which he won the V.C. at Paga near Kalampore in July 1857. As seen here, Kerr is depicted as a kind of swashbuckling Victorian Rambo. He boasts that special ability of all the great film and comic book heroes of being able to shoot blind with deadly accuracy. At the same time, he can run through an enemy soldier with his sword and crush to death yet another underfoot. Kerr's heroics form part of *From Waterloo to the Somme*, an exhibition of paintings about the British Army between 1815 and 1914. The show claims to be a radical re-assessment of how the public perceived the military, not always favourably as it turns out. For example, after the Crimean War it appeared that, contrary to the usual conventions, it was the ordinary soldiers — not the generals — who were depicted as heroes. Such paintings were part of a popular campaign for army reform designed to ensure that the *unprofessional and incompetent leadership which had wasted so many lives in the Crimea was not repeated. The exhibition includes battle paintings, portraits and a section dealing with the home life of army personnel and starts today at Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road, Manchester (061 273 4865), Monday to Saturday 10am to 5pm, free, until February 27. *David Lee*

☆ **THE NUTCRACKER:** Peter Schaufuss for London Festival Ballet.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191), 7.30-9.45pm, £4.50-£15.50.

CONCERTS

☆ **BORANTE TRIOS:** Now within sight of the finishing post, the Park Lane Group's "Young Artists and 20th Century Music" series proffers the Borante Piano Trio in Shostakovich's Trio No 1, Buxton Orr's Trio No 1 and Dominic Muldowney's Trio No 1.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). 6pm, £2.50-£4.50.

☆ **LEPPARD/LOTT:** Raymond Leppard conducts the Scottish National Orchestra in Beethoven's Symphony No 5, Sibelius's *Tapiola* and Felicity Lott, soprano, is heard in some songs by Richard Strauss.
Usher Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh (031 228 1155, cc 031 228 5756), 7.30pm, £2.50-£9.90.

☆ **WITCH OF ENDOR:** The Baroque Consort of Singers, including Twig Hall (soprano), perform Purcell's *Saul and the Witch of Endor and pieces by* Monteverdi.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141), 7.30pm, £2.50-£5.

☆ **ROBLES RECITAL:** Marisa Robles solos in an arrangement for harp and orchestra of Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* with the Wren Orchestra under David Coleman. Also heard are Rossini's *Barbieri di Siviglia* Overture and Chabrier's *Espana.*
Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 6795, cc 01-638 8891), 7.45-9.45pm, £5.50-£12.50.

☆ **LONDON BACH:** The London Bach Orchestra is conducted by Nicholas Kraemer in Telemann's *Darmstadt* Overture, "Spring" and "Summer" from Vivaldi's *The Seasons*, and they are joined by the London Bach Singers and soloists for Bach's Magnificat.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London, SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.45pm, £5.50-£8.80.

☆ **ELDER/SCO:** Mark Elder conducts the Scottish Chamber Orchestra in Haydn's Symphony No 90, Mozart's Symphony No 29, Schumann's Cello Concerto (Ralph Kirshbaum, soloist) and Colin Matthew's Night Music.
Music Hall, Union Street, Aberdeen (0224 641122), 7.30pm, £3-£8.80.

☆ **FINAL GROUP:** The Park Lane Group's "Young Artists in 20th Century Music" series comes to an end with Janet Larsson, flute, Rene Berman, cello, and others playing *sonatas by Veldhuis and Schnittke,* Musgrave's *Narcissus*, Jonathan Harvey's *Nataraja* and much else.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800), 7.30pm, £3-£5.

☆ **BEAST:** This is the acronym of the Birmingham Electro-Acoustic Sound Theatre, which presents Stockhausen's *Kontakte*, Denis Smalley's *Windchimes*, Wishart's *Vox V* and Jonathan Harvey's *Mortuous Plango Vivos Voco.*
St James's, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1 (01-499 2576), 8pm, £3.50.

OPERA

★ **DER ROSENKAVALIER:** Valerie Masterson as the Marschallin and Jean Rigby the Octavian in a pleasing English National Opera revival, conducted by Christian Badea.
English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836-3161), 7-10.50pm, £2-£21.50.

ROCK

★ **DEPECHE MODE:** Last year's *Music For The Masses* underlined a musical sophistication for which the group is not often credited.
NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133) doors open 6.30pm, £8-£9.

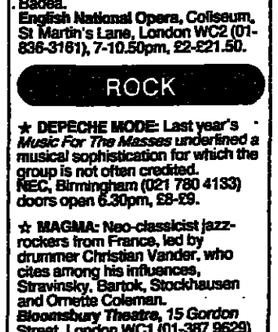
☆ **MAGMA:** Neo-classicist jazz-rockers from France, led by drummer Christian Vander, who cites among his influences, Stravinsky, Bartok, Stockhausen and Ornette Coleman.
Bloomsbury Theatre, 15 Gordon Street, London WC1 (01-387 9629) 7.30pm, £6, also tomorrow.

☆ **JONATHAN RICHMAN AND THE MODERN LOVERS:** Touring to promote the *Modern Lovers 88* album, but he is still best remembered for "Roadrunner" 77.
Manchester University Students' Union, Oxford Road (061 273 5111)

☆ **POP WILL EAT ITSELF:** A lively mixture of hip hop, pop and rock from the controversial "Beaver Patrol" boys of Stourbridge.
University of London Union, Malet Street, London WC1 (01-580 9551) 7.30pm, £4-£4.50.

JAZZ

☆ **MARTIN TAYLOR:** *Stephane* Grappelli's guitarist links up with the Dave Sheppard quintet.
Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722), 9.30pm, ring for prices.



The saxophonist Stan Salzmann (above) was responsible for one of the outstanding jazz LPs of 1987 — *Everybody's Song But My Own* — a restrained due performance with the pianist John Taylor. Salzmann will be in more rambustious company tonight when his Steam Bass Band appears at Cambridge (see listings). The group has an unconventional line-up, with the leader backed by two bassists, Chris Lawrence and Mick Hutton, and John Marshall on drums. The veteran pianist Gordon Beck will be making a guest appearance.

☆ **ANDY SHEPPARD:** 1987 saw him breaking through to a wider, not to say trendy audience, helped by a fine *Antilles* album.
Queens Hotel, Imperial Square, Cheltenham (0242 523690), 7.30pm, £3.

☆ **STAN SULZMANN STEAM BASS BAND:** See caption.
Flambards Wine Bar, Rose Crescent, Cambridge (0223 62550), 8pm, £4 (£3 members.)

☆ **BILL LE SAGE:** John Dankworth's old sideman performs keyboard duets with Tony Lee.
The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes (0908 582522), 8pm, £3.50.

GALLERIES

THE SCULPTORS VIEW: Works in aluminium by Austin Wright and clay by Christine Merton.
Castlefield Gallery, 5 Campfield Avenue Arcade, Manchester (061 832 8034). Tues-Sat 10.30-5.30pm, Sun 12.30-4.30pm, free, until Feb 27.

PAINTING WOMEN: A survey of paintings by Victorian women artists.
Southampton Art Gallery, Civic Centre, Southampton (0703 832769). Tues-Fri 10-5pm, Thurs 10-8pm, Sat 10-4pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until Feb 21.

FRENCH 19TH CENTURY WATERCOLOURS: Pictures from the permanent collection which are not normally on display, including examples by Delaroche, Vernet and Géricault.
The Wallace Collection, Hertford House, Manchester Square, London W1 (01-935 0687). Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until April 17.

ARTISTS USE PHOTOGRAPHY: 24 German artists, Joseph Beuys and Gerhard Richter among them, who incorporate photography into their work.
Goethe-Institut, 50 Princes Gate, London SW7 (01-581 3344), Mon-Thurs 12-8pm, Fri 12-6pm, Sat 10-1pm, free, until Feb 20.

CRITICAL REALISM: Social realist artists such as Ken Currie examine the state of Britain in the late Eighties.
Smith Art Gallery, 40 Albert Place, Dumbarton Road, Stirling (0786 71917), Wed-Sun 2-5pm, Sat 10.30-5pm, free, until Jan 31.

STEPHEN FARTHING: A survey of recent figurative paints, called Mute Accomplices, by an astute commentator on contemporary life.
Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester (0533 554100), Mon-Sat 10-5.30pm, Sun 1-5.30pm, free, until Jan 31.

PAST AND PRESENT: A fascinating exhibition showing how contemporary artists like Leon Kossoff learn from the Old Masters.
Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Hull (0482 222750), Mon-Sat 10-5pm, Sun 1.30-4.30pm, free, until Jan 31.

TALKS

DANCE LECTURE: Lecture-demonstration by the Consort de Danse Baroque, providing an opportunity to see and hear dance as it would have been performed during the reign of Louis XVI of France.
Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent (0633 840064), 7.30pm, free.

HEAR THE PICTURES SPEAK: Illustrated talk by Mike Harding on his experiences during walks in the dales. He will also be signing copies of his books *Walking The Dales and Bomber's Moon.*
Royal Exchange Theatre, St Annes Square, Manchester (061 833 9333), 1pm, £1.50.

THE UNREAL CITY: Lecture by James Knowles on civic ideology, pagentry and public theatre in Jacobean London.
University of Leicester, Seminar Room, College House, Leicester, 12.45pm, free.

WALKS

INNS OF COURT AND OLD BAILEY: meet Temple tube, 10.30am, £2.50.

LONDON'S HISTORIC DOCKLANDS AND THAMES: meet Tower Hill tube, 2.30pm, £2.75.

ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE REVEALED: meet Farringdon tube, 3pm, £2.50.

ON THE TRAIL OF JACK THE RIPPER: meet Whitechapel tube, 7.30pm, £3.

HAUNTED LONDON — A GHOST WALK: meet Covent Garden tube, 7.30pm, £2.50.

OTHER EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY AND TRAVEL SHOW: First day of a three-day show with more than 150 travel companies, tourist authorities, railways and holiday companies from the UK and abroad. Plus continuous live entertainment.
Bristol Exhibition Centre, Canon's Road, Bristol (info: 0272 268026). Today 11am-6pm, tomorrow and Sun 11am-5pm, £1, accompanied child free.

CADBURY'S NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CHILDREN'S ART: Now in its 40th year, the touring exhibition with 800 exhibits submitted by children aged four to 18 opens today in Birmingham.
City Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham (021 235 2843). Mon-Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, free, until Feb 19.

WATERCOLOURS FROM WINCHESTER COLLEGE: Outstanding collection of 58 watercolours dating from the late 18th to the 20th century. Includes work by Edward Lear, Joseph Turner, Augustus John, Sir Alfred Munnings and Thomas Rowlandson. On loan from the college, the exhibition is being staged in aid of the Winchester Cathedral appeal.
Sotheby's, 34 and 35 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until Jan 27.

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

ROYAL EXCHANGE: *Season ticket booking open for spring/summer,* with première of *American Bagpipes* by Iain Heggie, commissioned by Royal Exchange; *All My Sons* with John Thaw; Molière's *Don Juan* translated by John Fowles; *Twelfth Night*; and Garson Kanin's *Born Yesterday.* Feb-Aug.
Royal Exchange, St Ann's Square, Manchester (061 833 9833).

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE CONCERTS: Public booking now open for Feb-July concerts, with performances by Peter Donohoe, Emma Kirkby, Consort of Musicke, Carmina Quartet, Domus, Endymion Ensemble, and New Budapest and New Zurich string quartets. Louis Lortie plays Ravel complete works for solo piano.
Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141).

LAST CHANCE

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS: Largely photographic exhibition and record of popular Welsh Christmas customs. Ends today.
Welsh Folk Museum, St Fagan's, Cardiff (0222 569441).

TAKESHI YASUDA: Blend of traditional and contemporary pottery by artist influenced by English medieval and Japanese folk styles. Ends Sun.
Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3002).

SOVIET VOICES: Russian posters. Ends Sun.
Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London SE1 (01-735 8922).

Theatre: Jeremy Kingston; **Films:** Geoff Brown; **Concerts:** Max Harrison; **Opera:** Hilary Finch; **Rock:** David Sinclair; **Jazz:** Clive Davis; **Dance:** John Percival; **Galleries:** David Lee; **Walks and Talks:** Greta Carslaw; **Other Events:** Judy Froshaug; **Bookings:** Anne Whitehouse.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

SINAPISM
(a) From superstition about the efficacy of a mustard plaster, from Greek *sinapisma.*

SKUTTERUDITE
(c) From Skutterud (now called Skotterud), a village in SE Norway where the muck was discovered.

CATTLE CALL
(b) American showbiz slang for an audition announcement, especially one for a number of extras; also the seething mob resulting from such an announcement.

SENARY
(a) The number six, Latin *senarius (numerus)*, a sequence of six things, especially the six days of the Creation.

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:
1 (1) Predator
2 (2) Cry Freedom
3 (3) Wish You Were Here
4 (4) Little Dorrit
5 (9) Manon des Sources
6 (5) Witches of Eastwick
7 (6) Roxanne
8 (-) Near Dark
9 (8) Spaceballs
10 (-) The Dead
Supplied by *Screen International*

OUTSIDE LONDON:
1 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
2 Masters of the Universe
3 Bigfoot and the Hendersons
4 Spaceballs
5 Inner Space
Supplied by: *Screen International*

UNITED STATES:
1 (1) Three Men and a Baby
2 (4) Broadcast News
3 (3) Eddie Murphy Raw
4 (2) Throw Mama from the Train
5 (5) Batteries Not Included
6 (6) Wall Street
7 (7) Planes, Trains and Automobiles
8 (8) Overboard
9 (9) Fatal Attraction
10 (10) Empire of the Sun
Supplied by: Exhibitor Relations Co Inc/*Screen International*

VIDEO RENTALS:
1 Short Circuit
2 Mannequin
3 Star Trek IV
4 The Golden Child
5 Heartbreak Ridge
Supplied by: *Video Business*

ENTERTAINMENTS

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 638 8891/628 8795 Ton't 7.45 **MARISA ROBLES** Spanish Evening WREN ORCHESTRA.

EXHIBITIONS

EMPERORS TERRACOTTA WARRIORS. Royal Horticultur. al Society's Old Hall, Vincent Square, SW1. £4.50. Adults, £3 child. 09.30 - 21.00 except Tuesday 09.30 - 18.00, W/E 10.00 - 21.00. December 14th - Feb 20th. Tel: 01-828 2768.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 CC 240 5258. **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA.** Ton't 7.00. **Der Rosenkavalier.** Tomor 7.30 **Hansel & Gretel.**

Royal Festival Hall 928 3191, CC 928 8800. Until 16 January. Eves 7.30pm, Sats Mats 3.00pm **LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET THE NUTCRACKER** (Schaufuss) Ton't: Hall / Chalmer / Supervia / Howard / Malin / Grant / Pettinelli Tickets from / £4.50

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 240 1066/1911. Stalls info 836 6903. S CC 55 amphi seats avail on the day.
Tomor 7.30 **THE ROYAL OPERA** L'Italiana in Algeri. Tue 7.30 **THE ROYAL BALLET** Giselle. Ballet casting info 01 240 9815

SADLER'S WELLS 278 8916 First Call CC 24 hr 7 day 240 7200. Until Sat. Eves 7.30, Sat 2.30 & 7.30 **SADLERS WELLS ROYAL BALLET** Kreutzer Sonata. Allegri Diversi. The Edge of Silence. Giordana. From 20 Jan. THE RAGGED CHILD Ma-Bassel Youth Music Theatre.

THEATRES

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"A Visually Dreamy" Times
THE WIZARD OF OZ rtns Mon (Tkts still avail for 18-20 Jan, 8-13, 22-27 Feb. Group 930 6123). **THE WINTER'S TALE** rtns 29 Jan.
THE PIT TON'T 7.30. tomor 2.0 & 7.30 **OLD YEAR'S EVE** by Peter Speyer. **SPECULATORS** rtns Mon (Students £4.50 in adv). **DEATHWATCH/THE MAIDS** rtns 22 Jan.

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Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC1

6.00 Ceefax AM. **6.35** Leon Errol in Down the Ribber (b/w) **6.55** Weather. **7.00** Breakfast Time includes national and international news at **7.00, 7.30, 8.00** and **8.30**; regional news and travel reports at **7.15, 7.45** and **8.15**; weather at **7.25, 7.55** and **8.25**. **8.30** Laverne and Shirley. American comedy series **8.55** Regional news and weather. **9.00** News and weather followed by Open Air with Eamonn Holmes. **9.20** Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a discussion whether or not shoppers get bargains at sales. **10.00** News and weather followed by Going for Gold (r). **10.25** Children's BBC. Andy Crane with programme news and birthday greetings followed by Play School and The Wombles (r). **10.55** Five to Eleven. A reading by Annette Crosbie **11.00** News and weather followed by Open Air. **12.00** News and weather followed by Daytime Live. The guests include Ian McKellan and the Syd Lawrence Orchestra. **12.55** Regional news and weather. **1.00** One O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Weather **1.20** Neighbours. Scott has a chat with his brother and changes his mind after making a decision. **1.50** Film: Sands of Iwo Jima (1949, *b/w*) *starring John Wayne, John* Aggar and Forrest Tucker. Second World War drama about a tough United States Marines sergeant who turns his bunch of raw recruits into a crack fighting machine. Directed by Allan Dwan. **3.40** Ask Margo. Margo MacDonald answers questions on citizens' rights. **3.50** Corners. Young people's queries answered by Sophie Aldred and Simon Davies. **4.10** SuperTed (r). **4.15** Jackanory. Sylvestra Le Touzel with part five of Bertie Doherty's *Children of Winter*. **4.30** Survival Challenge presented by Richard Crane. A cycling challenge, the prize being two places in RoSPA's coast-to-coast cycle ride in July. **4.55** Newsround Extra. Helen Rollason follows the fortunes of a young British American Football team. **5.10** Grange Hill. Episode four of the 20-part serial. (Ceefax) **5.35** Neighbours (r). **6.00** Six O'Clock News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather. **6.35** London Plus **7.00** Wogan. The guest list includes Broadway star Debbie Allen; stage school heads Barbara Speake and June Collins; and former boss of 20th Century Fox, Sherry Lansing. Plus, music from Black. **7.40** Blankety Blank. Joining Les Dawson this week are Karen Barber, Les Dennis, Peter Goodwright, Lisa Maxwell, Mary Parkinson and Peter Powell. (Ceefax). **8.15** Twenty Years of the Two Ronnies. The final programme in the series (r). (Ceefax) **9.00** Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis and Debbie Thrower. Regional news and weather. **9.30** Rockliffe's Babies. Det Sgt Rockliffe's squad are on the look-out for a red-headed young man wanted for questioning about *a death at a party*. (Ceefax) **10.20** Whicker's World. (Ceefax) (see Choice) **11.10** Film: Silver Bears (1977) starring Michael Caine, Cybill Shepherd and Louis Jordan. Comedy drama about an accountant who is sent by the Mafia to oversee a large amount of money destined for a numbered Swiss bank account. When he arrives in Italy to collect the money he is horrified to learn that the man responsible for the loot has spent it on a worthless silver mine. Directed by Ivan Passer. **1.00am** Weather.

BBC2

9.00 Ceefax **9.30** Daytime on Two: changes on the River Clyde **9.52** Pigeon racing **10.15** Farming in Scotland **10.38** Information technology **11.00** Storytime **11.18** Wondermaths **11.35** Past and present travel in Scotland **12.00** A drama set in present-day Chile **12.35** The friendship of three girls is threatened **1.05** French conversation **1.20** Two programmes for the young **1.38** Walrus **2.00** News and weather followed by a children's programme. **2.15** Sport on Friday. The Embassy World Professional Darts championship; the European Skating championships; and a preview of the five nations rugby union championship. Includes news and weather at **3.00** and **3.50**. **4.00** Catchword. Word game **4.30** River Journeys. Christina Dodwell travels by raft down Papua New Guinea's Wahgi River (r). (Ceefax) **5.30** Food and Drink (r). **6.00** Film: Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon (1942, *b/w*) starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce. The super-sleuth is asked to track down a weapons scientist thought to have been kidnapped by Professor Moriarty at the behest of the Nazis. Directed by Roy William Neill. **7.05** Cartoon. **7.10** Underground to Europe. The Channel Tunnel. **8.00** The Friday Report: Smear Campaign. Michael Delaheye discovers that the long wait for cervical smear results and treatment causes great anxiety for many women. **8.30** Gardeners' World includes a visit to the Christchurch, Hampshire, garden of sweet pea grower, the Rev Kenneth Colledge. **9.00** The Tracey Ullman Show from the United States. **9.25** Arena: The Dandy-Beano Story. (see Choice) **10.15** European Figure Skating Championships from Prague featuring the Free Dance. **10.50** Newsnight **11.35** Weather. **11.40** World Darts. The last quarter-final match of the Embassy World Professional championship. Ends at **12.50am**.

ITV/LONDON

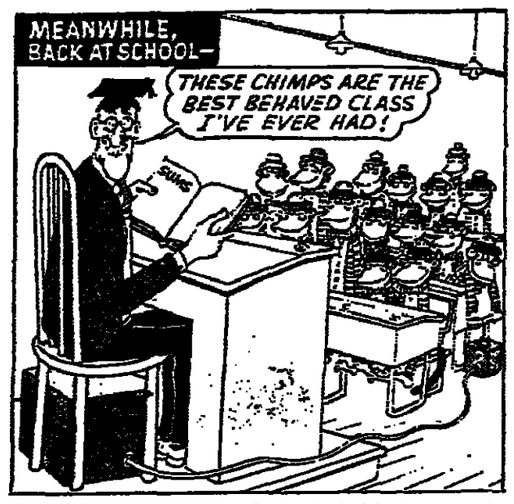
6.00 TV-am begins with a repeat of yesterday's G'Day Britain and includes, at **7.00** and **8.00** for half-an-hour, Good Morning Britain introduced by Richard Keys. **8.30** G'Day Britain presented by Anne Diamond in Australia. After Nine includes an item on positive thinking. **9.25** Thames news headlines. **9.30** Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game presented by Michael Parkinson. This morning Lionel Blair and Liza Goddard are joined by Windsor Davies, Nerys Hughes, Almi Macdonald, Mike Read, Angela Rippon and Dennis Taylor **10.00** Santa Barbara **10.25** News headlines. **10.30** The Time. . .The Place. . . Mike Scott chairs a topical discussion **11.10** Rainbow. Learning with puppets (r). **11.25** Thames news headlines **11.30** New Way of Living. Jenni Mills meets two redundant workers who turned their talents to successful businesses of their own — one of them as an artist, the other as head of a welding firm (r). **12.00** Gas Street. Music and chat show presented by Suzi Quatro. **12.30** News with Julia Somerville **12.50** Thames news **1.00** Chain Letters. Word association game presented by Jeremy Beadle. **1.30** Film: Autumn Bells (1973). A musical fantasy, made in Russia, based on a story by Alexander Pushkin about the beautiful daughter of a Czar and her jealous stepmother. Directed by Vladimir Gorikker. **3.00** Gems. Drama serial about the London rag trade **3.25** Thames news headlines **3.30** Sons and Daughters. Australian family drama serial. **4.00** The Raggy Dolls (r). **4.10** Five Minute Wonder, with Gabrielle Bradshaw **4.20** He-Man and the Masters of the Universe **4.45** Splash includes the first of a series of reports on holidays designed for children, beginning with a visit to Bruton Farm, Somerset. **5.15** Blockbusters. General knowledge quiz game for teenagers. **5.45** News with Fiona Armstrong. **6.00** The 6 O'Clock Show presented by Michael Aspel. **7.00** The Price is Right. Game show introduced by Leslie Crowther. **8.00** Me & My Girl. Domestic comedy series starring Richard O'Sullivan, Tim Brooke-Taylor and Joan Sanderson. **8.30** Tales of the Unexpected: The Surgeon, by Roald Dahl. John Alderton stars in this story about a surgeon who is rewarded with a precious gift for saving a patient's life. (Oracle). **9.00** Floodtide. Drama serial starring Philip Sayer as Ramsey, a man who is enlisted to help a suspended police inspector clear his name. The first task is to find an American street entertainer but, unbeknown to him, Ramsey is being stalked by a drug trafficker. **10.00** News at Ten with Sandy Gall and Alastair Stewart **10.30** LWT News headlines and weather. **10.35** The London Programme. Trevor Phillips reports on the campaign of violence being *mounted on pirate disc jockeys by* other illegal disc jockeys. **11.05** South of Watford. This first of a new series presented by John Lloyd examines the Barbican. **11.35** Ice Skating. The European Figure Skating Championships from Prague. **12.35am** Throb. American comedy series. **1.00** Night Network includes guests Emlyn Hughes, Bonnie Langford and singer Juliet Roberts. **4.00** T.J.Hooker. Stacy is captured by an escaped madman. Starring William Shatner. **4.55** Professional Bowling from Indianapolis. Ends at **6.00**.

CHANNEL 4

9.30 Schools. **12.00** Business Daily. **12.30** Abracadabra (r). **1.00** On Course. Open College trainers' magazine series presented by Anna Ford **2.00** The Parliament Programme. **2.30** Heritage: Civilization and the Jews. Part nine (of 12) (r). **3.30** Time to Remember (b/w). Part 26 of the history of Britain from Victorian times features the personalities of the 1930s (b/w). **4.00** Mavis on 4. Joining Mavis Nicholson are theatre producer Josephine Hart and singer/songwriter Billy Bragg. **4.30** Fifteen-to-One. Game show. **5.00** Ice Skating. The European Figure Skating Championships from Prague. **5.30** The Chart Show, part one. **6.00** Revid. A review of the latest film releases on video. **6.15** The Adventures of Tintin. Part two of Red Rackham's Treasure. **6.30** The Chart Show, part two. **7.00** Channel 4 News with Peter Sissons and Nicholas Owen. **7.50** Book Choice. Financial journalist Frances Cairncross reviews Douglas Frantz's *Mr Diamond: The Story of Dennis Levine, Wall Street's Most Infamous Inside Trader*. **8.00** What the Papers Say with Damien McCrystal of *The Sun*. **8.15** Dispatches. NHS consultants — are their working practices appropriate for the late 1980s? **9.00** The Cosby Show. (Oracle) **9.30** The Wine Programme. Dry sherries of Jerez (r). (Oracle) **10.00** The Golden Girls. Comedy series. (Oracle) **10.30** Aids Now. Part two of the six-programme series examines the devastating consequences of the disease. (Oracle) **11.30** Film: He Died With His Eyes Open (1985) starring Michel Serrault and Charlotte Rampling. Thriller about a detective, investigating the murder of a musician, who has an affair with the woman who confesses to the crime. Directed by Jacques Deray. **1.30am** Film: Game for Three Losers (1965, *b/w*) starring Michael Gough as a promising politician who becomes involved in blackmail. Directed by Garry O'Hara. Ends at **2.35**.

Madam Dorrie and Co

TELEVISION CHOICE



A potentially explosive situation, typical of the humour to be found in the Beano and the Dandy: Arena, BBC2, 9.25pm

● Alan Whicker's contribution to the Australian bi-centenary celebrations is a series on Poms who have made it Down Under. In the first episode of **Whicker's World — Living with Waltzing Matilda** (BBC1, 10.20pm) he visits a Perth brothel whose madam, Mrs Dorrie Flatman, left her terrace house in Liverpool in 1963 with three daughters and £45 and is now one of the richest women in Australia. Strictly speaking, brothel-keeping is a crime which carries a penalty of three years' hard labour. But in Western Australia, unlike the other states, the police turn a blind eye to bordellos as long as there are no drugs, no under-age girls and no men involved in the management. Mrs Flatman not only abides by these rules but imposes some *of her own, like forbidding the* girls to swear or wear jeans. And being a good Catholic, she says she would close for the day if the Pope should come by. Credit cards are accepted (a cue for Whicker to plug the plastic he advertises on ITV) and clients are presented with an illustrated menu from which they select their delicacies. Much in demand, possibly because she lets it known that she is not averse to being spanked, is Lola from Indonesia. She says she likes English men best, because they are nice and gentle. It seems that Greeks and Italians prefer their girls on the buxom side, while the Japanese go for slim blondes. Clients range from a lad sent along by his mother as an 18th birthday present to old men in wheelchairs. Mrs Flatman's second husband, Kim, intended to be a missionary but she talked him out of it. His parents were not overjoyed at the match. Apart from marrying into what Whicker calls a "three-brothel family", he was 21 years younger. *Family dis*approval had to be tempered by the revelation that Kim's brother had been one of the Flatman clients, until he was ejected for obnoxious behaviour. Whicker relates it all in his relaxed, quizzical, slightly amused style. If anyone can make the oldest profession palatable for family viewing, it is surely he. It should be added the other Poms in his series lead more conventional lives. The second programme, on Sunday, features Jane Makim, wife of a rancher, sister of the Duchess of York and definitely not the madam of a bordello.

● The 50th anniversaries of *The Dandy* (which first appeared in December 1937) and its stable mate, *The Beano* (launched in July 1938) are celebrated in Arena (BBC2, 9.25pm). As entertaining as the subject, Helen Gallacher's film is an affectionate evocation of the world of Desperate Dan and Korky the Cat and Lord Snooty — a world which seems to have changed little over half a century. Though the current staffs of both papers are strikingly young, the emphasis is on nostalgia, with old *Dandy* and *Beano* stalwarts recalling the genesis of this and that comic strip hero and how contingency plans were laid to carry on publication should Britain have been occupied by the Nazis. Missing from the programme is any idea of who reads the comics today (and, indeed, how many, but the publishers, D. C. Thomson, are notoriously coy about revealing circulation figures). Instead, we have the tributes of such fans as the Spike Milligan lookalike, A. N. Wilson, who reckons that many of the strips are morality plays about characters forced to exploit the system because they are hungry. He places Desperate Dan in the tradition of Samson and Beowulf.

Peter Waymark

It's all in the mind

RADIO CHOICE

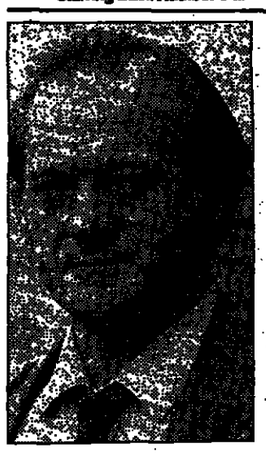


Greer Garson as Elizabeth Bennet: R4, 4.05pm

● The literary quote that will probably be tinkling away at the back of your mind as you listen to A Body of Fears (Radio 4, 11.00am) is the one about the gift of being able to see ourselves as others see us. Self-perception is the stuff of Geoff Watts's documentary, with its stable companion self-deception blotting out the view at regular intervals. At the extreme end of the catalogue of misperceptions are those experienced by victims who are convinced they have two heads and use a gun to shoot away the superfluous one; those who believe their arms are shrivelling away, or swelling into something monstrous; and those anorexia sufferers who are known to over-estimate the bulk of their bodies by more than 100 per cent. *A Body of Fear* offers a *crumb of comfort to the* "average" women. Most of them, it appears, are actually far less massive than they unfondly imagine themselves to be.

● My respect for Christopher Cook increases with every new edition of Radio 4's Film *of the Book*. *He is a rare* species because he is strong on both film *and* book. Nobody who had not read the lines (and between the lines) of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, would have dared make the comment, as he does in this afternoon's programme (4.05), that Olivier's Darcy is marked by a class consciousness that has everything to do with Aldous Huxley's view of 20th century Britain — Huxley was part-writer of the script of the MGM movie — and nothing to do with Jane Austen's England under the Regency. And it takes an astute critic of cinema to encapsulate Greer Garson's playing of Elizabeth Bennet as if she were "mounted on a set of well-oiled castors", to characterize Edna May Oliver's impersonation of Lady Catherine de Bourgh as "serving up snobbery like a five-times Wimbledon champion", and to pass judgement on Maureen O'Sullivan's portrayal of Jane Bennet by saying that all it called for was winsome good manners and a fine set of pearly teeth. I share Christopher Cook's surprise at the *fact that so much of Jane* Austen's irony survived the book's journey to the screen, but I think his regret at the loss of plot details might have been lessened had he considered *that the film was not* based directly on the book but on a stage version by Helen Jerome.

Peter Davalle



Ian Hogg in Rockliffe's Babies: on BBC1, 9.30pm

VARIATIONS

Presents: Incident in a Small Town **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am** Starring the Actors (Jack Lemmon) **12.35** Closedown.

CENTRAL As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Adolphi Bundeu **6.00–7.00** News **10.35** Who's The Boss? **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am** Film: Contract on Cherry Street **2.05** Roxy **1.35** America's Top Ten **3.05** Meltdown (Then Jericho) **3.30** Wish You Were Here..? **4.05** News, Jobfinder.

CHANNEL As London except: **12.50pm** News **1.00** The Treatment **1.30** Relly — Ace of Spies **2.30** Plants for Free **3.00** Crash Letters **3.30–4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Channel Report **6.30–7.00** Taste of the South **10.35** Facing South **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am–12.35** Tales From the Darkside **4.00** Company, Closedown.

GRAMPIAN As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Night We Got the Bird **6.00–7.00** North Tonight **10.35** Crossfire **11.05** Figure Skating **12.05am** Meltdown (Motorhead/Anti Nowhere League) **12.35** Closedown.

GRANADA As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** Granada Reports **1.30** Wish You Were Here? **2.00** Scramble! **2.30** Week in View? **3.30–4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Granada Reports **6.30–7.00** Scramble! **10.35** Who's The Boss? **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am** Film: Go Tell The Spartans **1.55** Meltdown (Squeeze) **2.55** Close

HTV WEST As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30** Wish You Were Here? **2.00** Survival **2.30–3.00** Who's The Boss? **6.00–7.00** News **10.35** Jethro Junction **11.05** Ice Skating **12.00** Film: The Lovers **1.40am** Close

HTV WALES As HTV West except: **6.00pm–7.00** Wales at Six **10.35–11.05** First Things First.

SCOTTISH As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Delphi Bureau **6.00** Scotland Today **6.30–7.00** Take the High Road **10.35–11.35** Elton John in Australia **12.35am** Close

TSW As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Winterhawk **3.30–4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Friday Show **6.30–7.00** Televiews **10.35** *Sledgehammer* **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am** Film: Satan's Triangle **1.30** Postscript, Closedown.

TVS As London except: **12.50pm** News **1.00** The Treatment **1.30** Relly — Ace of Spies **2.30** Plants for Free **3.00** Crash Letters **3.30–4.00** The Young Doctors **6.00** Coast to Coast **6.30–7.00** Taste of the South **10.35** Facing South **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am–12.35** Tales from the Darkside **4.00** Company, Closedown.

TYNE TEES As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Kill Me Tomorrow **6.00** Northern Life **6.30–7.00** Extra Time **10.35–11.35** Nightline **12.35am–6.00** Jobfinder.

ULSTER As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** Newstime **1.30–3.00** Film: Pearl of the South Pacific **6.00** Six Tonight **6.15–7.00** Six Tonight Extra **10.35** Witness **10.40** Festival Focus **11.05** Ice Skating **12.05am** Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Beast in View **12.25** News

YORKSHIRE As London except: **12.50pm–1.00** News **1.30–3.00** Film: Big Trees **6.00** Calendar **6.30–7.00** The Salesman **10.35** Alfred Hitchcock Presents: The Method Actor **11.05** Ice Skating **12.35am** Film: The Big Sleep **1.50** Jobfinder **2.50** Closedown.

S4C Starts: **9.30am** Schools **12.00** Business Daily **1.00pm** Open College **2.00** Film: Midsummer Night's Dream' **4.30** Pump Lon Goch **4.50** Straeon y Byd **5.00** Figure Skating **5.30** Chart Show **6.00** Revid **6.15** Tin Tin **6.30** Chart Show **7.00** Newyddion Saith **7.30** Cyfle **8.30** Carreg Ateb **8.55** Y Byd ar Bedwar **9.40** A Fine Romance **10.10** Film: Wetherby **12.05am** Off the Page **12.35** Close

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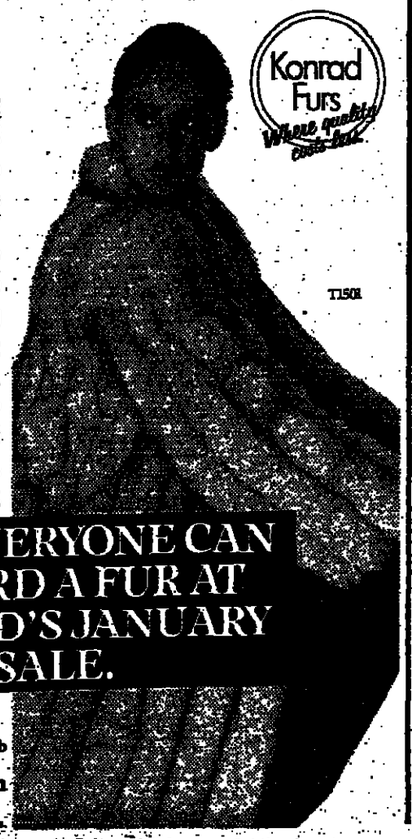
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32 Mink Coats	£2,495	£499	£10
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21 Stranded Raccoon Coats	£2,995	£780	£15
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Radio 1

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1) **5.30am** Adrian John **7.00** Nicky Campbell (Breakfast Show) **9.30** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **12.45** Gary Davies **3.00** Steve Wright **5.30** Newsbeat (Frank Partridge) **5.45** Singled Out (Mike Read and guests) **7.00** Jeff Young's Dance Music Show **10.00–12.00** The Friday Rock Show (Tommy Vance). **VHF** Stereo Radios 1 and 2: **4.00am** As Radio 2 **10.00pm** As Radio 1 **12.00–4.00am** As Radio 2

Radio 2

MW (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see Radio 1) **4.00am** Bill Rennells **5.30** Chris Stuart **7.30** John Stalker **9.03** Ken Bruce **11.00** Jimmy Young **1.05pm** David Jacobs **2.00** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Adrian Love **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Neil Richardson at the piano **9.00** The Organist Entertains (Nigel Ogden) **10.00** Serenade (Langham Orchestra with singer Joan Savage) **10.30** The Press Gang **11.00** Billy Butler **1.00am** Alan Dedicoat **3.00–4.00** A Little Night Music

WORLD SERVICE

All programme times given in GMT. 6.00am Londres Matin **7.00** News **7.09** Twenty-Four Hours **7.30** Write On... **7.45** Seven Seas **8.00** News **8.09** Reflections **8.15** First Recordings of British Symphonies **8.30** Music Now **9.00** News **9.09** Review of British Press **9.15** World Today **9.30** Financial News followed by Sports Roundup **9.45** I've Been Together Now for 70 Years **10.00** News **10.01** They Sold a Million **10.15** Seven Seas **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** News **11.09** News About Britain **11.15** Talking From... **11.30** Londres Midi **12.00** Radio Newsreel **12.15** Business Matters **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** News **1.09** Twenty-Four Hours **1.30** *John Peel* **2.00** *Outlook* **2.45** Nature Notebook **3.00** Radio Newsreel **3.15** Living at Full Flame **4.00** News **4.09** Commentary **4.15** Science in Action **4.45** World Today **5.00** News **5.09** A Letter from Northern Ireland **5.15** English by Radio **5.45** Londres Soir **6.30** Heute Aktuell **8.00** News **8.09** Twenty-Four Hours **8.30** Science in Action **8.58** News **9.01** Network UK **9.15** Business Matters **9.45** Five William Stories **10.00** News **10.09** The World Today **10.25** A Letter from Northern Ireland **10.30** Financial News **10.40** Reflections **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.09** Commentary **11.15** From the Weeklies **11.30** Multitrack 3 **12.00** News **12.09** News About Britain **12.15** Radio Newsreel **12.30** Personal View **12.45** Recording of the Week **1.00** News **1.01** Outlook **1.30** They Sold a Million **1.45** Nature Notebook **2.00** News **2.09** Commentary **2.15** Newsweek UK **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** News **3.09** News About Britain **3.15** World Today **3.30** Business Matters **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Six Four Eight **4.35** Financial News **4.45** Morgenmagazin **5.45** World Today.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather forecast **7.00** News bulletin **7.05** Morning Concert: Rossini (Il Signor Bruschino overture: performed by Orpheus Chamber Orchestra). Respighi (Belkis, Queen of Sheba ballet music: Philharmonia under Geoffrey Simon). Verdi (Il tramonto: Margaret Price, soprano). Bach (Suite No 3 in D, BWV 1068: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Marriner) **8.00** News bulletin **8.05** Concert (continued): Glazunov (Violin Concerto in A minor: Pierre Amoyal with *RPO under Claudio* Scimone). Beethoven (Sonata in C sharp minor, Op 27 No 2, the "Moonlight": Daniel Barenboim, piano). Nielsen (The Fog is Lifting: James Galway, flute, and Sioned Williams, harp). Holmboe (Concerto for brass, Op 157: Scandinavian Brass Ensemble under Jorma Panula) **9.00** World Service News **9.10** This Week's Composer: Purcell. Recordings including Act 2 of The Fairy Queen (Equale Brass Ensemble, Monteverdi Choir, and soloists including Jennifer Smith, Judith Nelson, and Timothy Penrose); the overture and chorus: Come, Ye Sons of Art, Come Away (Monteverdi Choir and Orchestra, and Charles Brett, counter-tenor); and the Chaconne from King Arthur (English Baroque Soloists) **10.00** Elisabeth Leonskaja: piano recital. Beethoven's Sonata in D minor, Op 31 No 2; Liszt's Paraphrase de concert, Rigoletto: Chopin's Scherzo No 4 **10.50** J.C. Bach and Handel: Langham Chamber Orchestra, under Meredith Davies, with BBC Singers and soloists Tracey Chadwell, Ashley Stafford, Neil Mackenzie and *Jonathan Roberts*. J.C. Bach's Sinfonia in G minor, Op 6 No 6; Handel's Wedding Anthem, 1736 **11.25** Flute and piano: James Galway and Kazuhito Yamashita perform Cimarosa's Serenade **11.40** BBC Scottish SO, under George Hurst. With Lydia Mordkovitch (violin). Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor). Dvorak (Symphony No 9, From the New World) **1.00** News bulletin **1.05** Manchester Chamber Music: Mark Lubotsky (violin), Andrew Ball (piano). Stravinsky's Duo Concertant; Shostakovich's Preludes and Fugues, Op 87; Nos 7 and 12; and Prokofiev's Sonata No 2 **2.00** Beethoven: Saar Radio SO under Myung-Whun Chung perform the Symphony No 3 **3.00** Equale Brass play John Tavener's Trisagion; John Wallace's Three Moose Dances; Wallace arrangements of Rameau's Les Sauvages; Le Rappel des oiseaux; L'Egyptienne; and Roger Smalley's arrangement of Alkan's Characteristic Places **3.40** Handel Songs for the Stage: recital by Robert Woolley, playing on a 1612 harpsichord from the royal collection, made by Joannes Ruckers **4.25** Choral Voices: *Seppo Murto* conducts Suomen Laulu in works by Sibelius (Rakastava, Op 14, arranged for mixed chorus), Joonas Kokkonen (Sanctus; Benedictus; Agnus Dei), Bengt Johansson (Preludium), Kuula (Tune: At Sunrise), and Klemetti arrangements including Piae cantiones **5.00** World Service News **5.10** Mainly for Pleasure: recorded music selection, presented by Richard Baker **5.55** News bulletin **7.00** The French Flute School: James Dower (flute), with John Lenehan (piano). Gaubert's Sonata No 1 in A; Taffanel's Two sight-reading pieces; and Toulou's Solo No 13 **7.30** White Suit Blues: impressionistic biography of Mark Twain by Adrian Mitchell. With Harry Towb (as Mark Twain), and a cast that includes Clarke Peters, Elaine Delmar, and Mick Ford (as the Angel of Death). With music by Mike Westbrook (r) **9.30** Northern Sinfonia, under Wilfried Boettcher. Mozart's *Lucio Silla overture*; Mozart's Symphony No 41; and Lutoslawski's Musique funèbre **10.30** Netherlands Motets: The Sixteen, under Harry Christopher, perform works by Peter Phillips (second of two programmes) **11.00** Ruth Geiger: the pianist performs Schubert's Impromptu in F minor, D 935 No 1; and the Sonata in C, D 840. Also Haydn's Sonata in C, H XVI 48 **11.57** News **12.00** Closedown

Radio 4

LW (long wave). (s) Stereo on VHF **5.55** Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing: Weather **6.10** Farming **6.25** Prayer (s) **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.30, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.00, 8.00** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** Yesterday in Parliament **8.50** Your Letters **8.57** Weather; Travel **9.00** News bulletin **9.05** Desert Island Discs: Michael Parkinson's guest is the soprano Adele Leigh who picks some of her favourite recordings (s) **9.45** Feedback: Christopher Dunkley airs listeners' comments about BBC programmes and policies **10.00** News; International Assignment **10.30** Morning Story: Hit and Run, by Barbara Horrocks. Read by Sharon Bayliss **10.45** Daily Service: New Every Morning, page 38 (s) **11.00** News; A Body of Fears: the underlying causes of a group of psychiatric illnesses which gives sufferers a false image of their own bodies (see Choice) (r) **11.47** Even Further up the Tyne in a Flummox: Leonard Barras reads two more of his stories: Find Truth for Yourself, and The Turnip in the Night **12.00** News; You and Yours: with John Howard **12.25** The Food Programme: with Derek Cooper **1.00** The World at One **1.40** The Archers **1.55** Shipping Forecast **2.00** News; Woman's Hour: presented by Dilly Barlow, in Birmingham. The projected items include an interview with technology collage head Valerie Bragg; and a feature on the modern mistress. Also, episode ten of Fiela's Child **3.00** News; Huntingtower: John Buchan's classic tale dramatized in three parts by Trevor Royle (2): The First Battle — or How a Middle-Aged Crusader Accepted a Challenge. With Roy Hanlon as Dickson McCunn. The storyteller is David McKail (r) **4.00** News bulletin **4.05** Film of the Book: Christopher Cook with the second of four programmes about film versions of famous novels: today, Olivier and Greer Garson in *the screen version of Pride* and Prejudice, by Jane Austen (see Choice) **4.30** Kaleidoscope: items include the London International Mime Festival; and the Sunday Express Book of the Year (r) **5.00** PM. News and features **5.50** Shipping **6.00** News, incl Financial Report **6.30** Going Places: travel and transport news **7.00** News Bulletin **7.05** The Archers **7.20** Pick of the Week: Margaret Howard presents her selection from the past week's television and radio programmes **8.20** Any Questions?: Joining Sue MacGregor in Cambridge are guests Kenneth Clarke QC, MP; Gerald Kaufman MP; author Tariq Ali; and Sue Slipman, Director of the National Council for One-Parent Families **9.05** Stop Press: Geoffrey Goodman reviews the week's newspapers **9.30** Letter from America by Alistair Cooke **9.45** Kaleidoscope: The Gentle Roar. Michael Billington talks to Cicely Berry, Voice Director of the RSC; actor *David Suchet*; and actress Fiona Shaw about the voice and the range that it has **10.15** A Book at Bedtime: Bevis, by Richard Jefferies (episode 10 of 15). Read by Michael Williams (r) **10.30** The World Tonight: presented by Richard Kershaw **11.00** Today in Parliament **11.15** The Financial World Tonight **11.30** Week Ending: A satirical view of the week's news with *Bill Wallis, David Tate*, Sally Grace and Royce Mills **12.00** News; Weather **VHF** as above except: **11.00am–12.00** For Schools. **11.00** Earth Search **11.20** Playtime **11.35** Music Workshop **1.55–3.00pm** For Schools. **1.55** Listening Corner **2.05** Let's Join In with Soundbox **2.25** The Song Tree **2.40** Scottish Traditional Dancing **5.50–5.55** PM (continued) **12.30–1.10am** Schools Night-Time. Help Yourself: Very Small Business. **12.30** Start-Up **12.40** Advice and Assistance **12.50** Advertising and Promotion **1.00** How is it Going?

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF-90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF-92-95; LBC: 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/463m.

Radical refuge for four deported

From A Correspondent
west Beirut

A radical Palestinian guerrilla group gave refuge to four Palestinian activists yesterday, a day after they were expelled by Israel to south-east Lebanon in defiance of a United Nations resolution condemning Israeli action.

Palestinian sources said that three of the four men were loyalists of the Palestine Liberation Organization and one was a supporter of the pro-Syrian and marxist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

An Israeli military helicopter brought the Palestinians to the village of Zemaraya on Wednesday on the edge of the Israeli-proclaimed security zone.

Security reports said Syrian troops whisked the four to one of their military bases and then handed them to the regular Lebanese Army, which returned them in the morning to the Zemaraya crossing.

The exhausted but confident-looking deportees stood for 1½ hours at the crossing point before they were collected by members of the PFLP and taken to the Bekaa Valley.

During a news conference last night in the town of Rashaya al-Wadi, the four told reporters they were maltreated, humiliated and physically assaulted during their imprisonment in Israel on December 28.

"They can expel us from our country, Palestine, but they cannot expel Palestine from our hearts," said Mr Jbril Mahmoud Rajub, one of the deportees.

Mr Rajub, aged 34, Mr Hussam Hadar, aged 26, Mr Bashir Ahmed Khayri, aged 45 and Mr Jamal Jabara, aged 28, said Israeli soldiers had warned them against attempting to return to the occupied territories.

●**NEW YORK:** The UN Security Council yesterday called on Israel to allow the four Palestinians to return to their homes, in a resolution passed 14-0, with the United States abstaining (AP reports).

The American Ambassador to the UN, General Vernon Walters, said Washington believes that repeatedly raising the issue in the Council "does not assist the process of restoring calm". But he also called on Israel to refrain from any more deportations.

The Israeli Ambassador, Mr Benjamin Netanyahu, said Israel would ignore the resolution because it was "unfair" to his country.

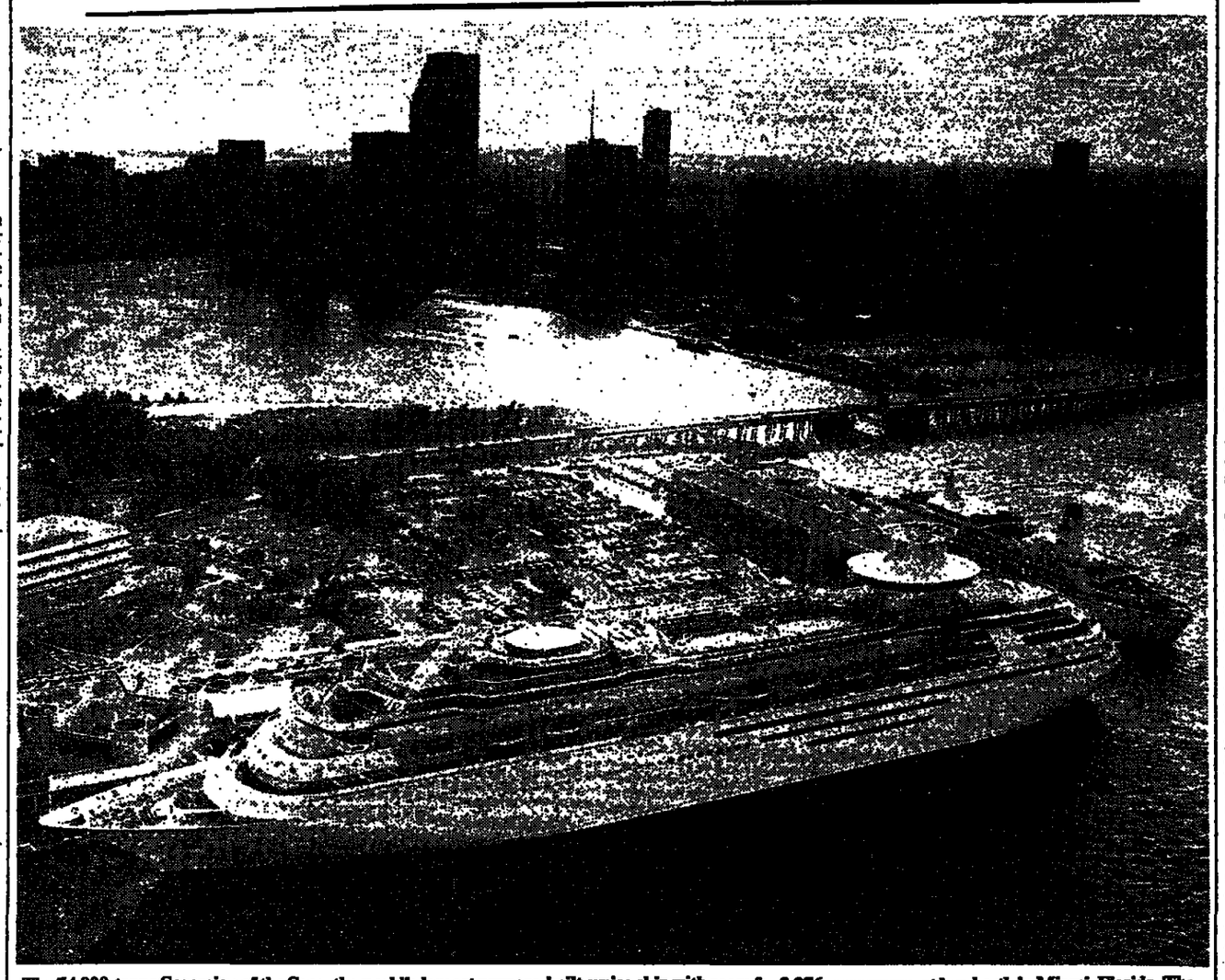
●**Wide condemnation:** The Soviet Union, France, and Egypt, were among the countries which issued condemnations of the deportations (Our Foreign Staff writes).

Egypt said Israel's move threatened Middle East peace efforts, while a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said the action broke international conventions protecting civilians in war time and was likely to perpetuate tension.

The Soviet Union accused Israel of violating human rights in occupied territories.

Journalists detained, page 6

Leviathan ready for maiden voyage



The 74,000-tonne Sovereign of the Seas, the world's largest purpose-built cruise ship with room for 2,276 passengers, at her berth in Miami, Florida. The 14-deck ship will be named today by Mrs Rosalyn Carter, wife of the former US President, before her maiden voyage tomorrow. (Photograph: Glyn Genin)

500 nurses in strike to protest at privatization

By Kerry Gill, and Jill Sherman

Almost 3,000 Scottish health workers, including more than 500 nurses, staged a 24-hour strike yesterday to protest against the privatization of hospital ancillary services.

Some union members were calling for an all-out strike from Monday.

The main action centred on Edinburgh Royal Infirmary and the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, but sporadic walkouts occurred at several other hospitals in the area. Lothian health board said that 150 minor operations had to be cancelled but all urgent cases were admitted.

The board maintained that only 1,500 workers had gone on strike, including 150 nurses.

"The main affect of the strike so far has been on the catering side", the board said. "Patients have been served cold food and have had little choice."

A demonstration of more than 1,000 ancillary workers and some nurses took place outside the health board's offices in Edinburgh causing the street to be closed.

The health board was meeting to discuss putting over 25 per cent of its cleaning and catering services out to tender in line with instructions from Mr Michael Forsyth, the Scottish health minister.

The board eventually voted by 11 votes to seven to abide by Mr Forsyth's orders. The decision, relayed by Mr John Lambie, of the joint trades union committee, was greeted by boos and jeering.

Mr Jim McLaughlin, the COHSE chairman at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, said: "We want the full time leaders to call an official strike as early as possible".

Parliament ..... page 4

A delegation of MPs, union officials and members of the Scottish Trade Union Congress met the board for 25 minutes before the meeting.

Mr Winston Tayler the health board's general manager, said strike action would be a "recipe for disaster". He said he was confident that an in-house tender could be prepared which could beat private competitors.

He said: "At this point the surest way to lose jobs for staff is not to co-operate in preparing an in-house tender."

The dispute also hit Hartwood Hospital in Lanarkshire, Scotland's biggest psychiatric hospital, where about 900 employees joined the strike. Their action was in protest against Lanarkshire Health Board's decision to put some domestic and catering services out to tender.

Mr Jim Devine, Scottish regional officer of COHSE, said that privatization of ancillary services would hit patient care and increase nurses' workload.

"Nurses will be expected to clean floors and theatres and cook meals in order to provide a service for patients."

Members of the Royal College of Nursing, who are pledged not to strike, said last night that it sympathized with the nurses in Scotland.

Few ancillary services have yet been put out to tender in Scotland, but this week Mr Forsyth told the boards that he expected a substantial programme of tendering to be under way by April.

Yesterday he said he was disappointed in the strike. He said savings achieved would be directed towards increased patient care.

Thatcher attacks NHS strikers

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday attacked nurses who have gone on strike "at the expense of patients", as the controversy over the health service again boiled over in the Commons.

Her tough words came after a Cabinet meeting at which Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, reported on his meeting with the presidents of the three royal medical colleges and as senior ministers accepted that the Government was not yet getting its message across.

Labour MPs retaliated by accusing her of having "blood on those hands" over recent cases of children denied operations because of staff shortages and accused her of choosing who lived or died.

Meanwhile, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, accused the Government of carrying out a "noose trial" of the health service via its fundamental review of the service, now secretly under way in Whitehall.

In an article in the *New Statesman*, he made clear he had no objection to "open and impartial consideration" of the health care crisis, but gave a warning that it must not be used to justify a switch from tax-based funding to private insurance, charges and lower standards.

It is understood that all the options are being considered, but that Mrs Thatcher and Mr Moore are chiefly concerned with ways of creating a "mixed economy" in health care and narrowing the performance gap between the worst and best health authorities.

In the Commons, Mrs Thatcher also endorsed moves to encourage health authorities to make greater use of empty beds in military hospitals to cut waiting lists.

Her attack on the strikers came after last Thursday's 24-hour walkout by 38 nurses belonging to the National Union of Public Employees at the North Manchester General Hospital and threats of similar disruption by nurses at other hospitals.

Some Labour MPs cried "shame" when Mrs Thatcher said she would not personally be meeting the West Midlands parents whose children were awaiting heart surgery when they hand in a petition to No 10 next week.

She insisted the Government had a "splendid record of success" with the health service.

Commons sketch

Bash Street Kids' warm welcome

Even in the excitement leading up to the fiftieth anniversary of *The Beano* newspaper, it seemed set to be a dull day in the House of Commons.

A Conservative backbencher complained that the Opposition always seemed to be opposing everything. His fellow backbenchers shook their heads in agreement. Would a Labour backbencher now complain that the Government always seemed to be governing everything?

Before anyone could get a word in, The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he quite agreed.

"I don't think it's doing them any good with the country as a whole", he added.

When MPs begin to speak on behalf of the country as a whole, observers reach for their pillows.

Then all of a sudden Mr David Steel entered. "Way-hay! Whoo-whoo-whoo! Whupupup! Yee-oooh! RAAAAAH! Yayayaya!"

The Bash Street Kids gave him their warmest welcome, waving their order papers to the ceiling and screeching with delight. Mr Steel had a go at smiling, but it came out as more of an inverted scowl, very much the sort of brave-face-making effort Walter makes when his bunch of flowers ends up in Gnasher's mouth. Sometimes the need to be seen to to take a joke supersedes any real ability to enjoy it.

"*Peace in our time!*" hooted a Kid. Walter's smile faltered for a second but then reappeared with still more desperate vigour.

"We're still one short", quipped the Chancellor, looking at the empty seats around Walter. Soon all the bullies were at it, kicking the victim and then looking around in eagerness for the approval of their gang.

"The punters will wish to know that the Government will resist the blandishments of the new party or parties for the imposition of Value Added Tax on food and children's clothing", stated a Labour backbencher. Even this gained laughs.

Anti-alliance hilarity had now reached such an pitch that even those not normally drawn to bullying could not resist a quick jab. Mr Peter Brooke *pointed out that the* Hon Member for Rochdale, a Mr Cyril Smith, had issued a statement saying he was opposed to VAT on food. "Hohohoho! Tee-hee-hee! Ha-ha-ha!" went the House.

Mrs Rosie Barnes, who entered the House less than a year ago as Li'l Orphan Annie but has since established herself as something rather closer to Keyhole Kate, sat upright in her seat. It seems a long time since she last smiled.

Now, dressed in the prim, standoffish suits once favoured by the Prime Minister, she spends much of her time exhibiting a concerned expression. Sad to say, her look of concern *comes out* resembling anyone else's look of spite, but as the sole representative of the Council for Social Democracy in the Chamber she remained tight-faced at the bullying of Walter, no doubt believing this to be more dignified than an all-out belly-laugh.

Across the way from her, the Prime Minister listened carefully while Mr Bob Cryer (Lab, Bradford South) suggested that money was better spent on patient care than on mass extermination.

She was wearing a dark dress and what looked ominously like a vicar's dog-collar around her neck. She referred Mr Cryer back to the Labour government's record on care and extermination.

It was the Prime Minister's time to make an anti-Alliance joke. Asked by Mr Harry Greenway to confirm that the Conservatives were the only party firmly committed to Trident, she stated that the Alliance might have been but "apparently as soon as they had a policy they withdrew it".

This was distinguishable as a joke only by the raucous laughter from the young Tory benchers that followed it, but the young Tories have a nose for Prime Ministerial jokes, so we must learn to trust to their judgement.

Mr Phillip Oppenheim, a young Tory, leapt to his feet. He, too, had just thought of a joke. What the Alliance represented was "not consensus politics but nonsense politics", he quipped. Alas, in the topsy-turvy world of politics a joke from Mr Oppenheim gains rather fewer laughs than a policy statement from Mr Steel.

Craig Brown

Thatcher rejects plea

Continued from page 1

published official information that revealed crime or fraud.

She had also turned down the idea favoured by some Conservative MPs that the Bill should be sent to a special select committee for consideration.

Mr Shepherd said that he had argued that it was wholly appropriate for MPs to look at the relationship between the citizen and the state, but the Prime Minister, who expressed regret at the upset that had been caused, would not be moved.

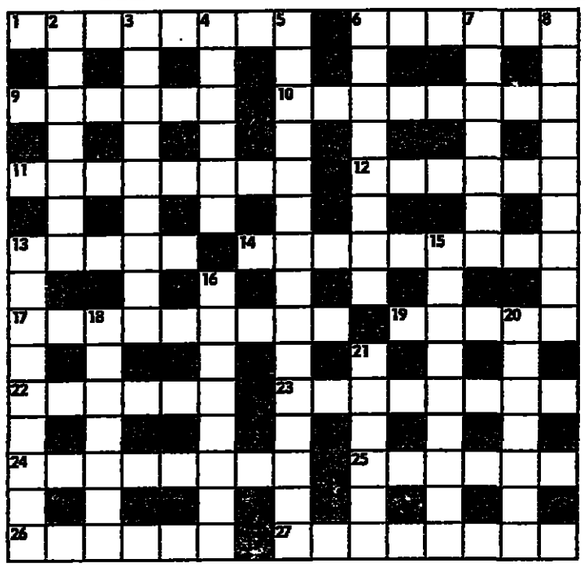
Mr Shepherd said: "I am concerned that good friends and colleagues who were supportive of my initiative to look at this important area should have been placed in such an invidious position".

Many of them were good and loyal supporters of the Prime Minister.

Mr Shepherd, when asked whether the meeting had been worthwhile, replied: "At least she knows who I am now".

Earlier, Mr Tony Benn effectively threw down a challenge to the authorities by publishing a classified document. He released to the press the *Questions of Procedure for Ministers*, which were issued to him and other ministers when they were appointed to the Callaghan Government in April 1976.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,566



ACROSS
1 One taken in by club cut-off bid meaning the opposite (8).
6 Pliable journalist dragged his feet (6).
9 Contracts for bags of money (6).
10 "The Chief Justice was rich, quiet, and —" (Macaulay) (8).
11 Fellow in tea house in the Orient gets stimulant (8).
12 In general, stick to peas or beans (6).
13 Repeat broadcast about conduct (5).
14 The place for the Open University? (2,7).
17 Novice gets wind instrument on part of the course (9).
19 Appropriate to move silently (5).
22 Game played with two packs (6).
23 When it's on the news, it shows *how quick people are* (8).
24 Late alas, drunk, and completely at a loss (3,2,3).
25 Strip clubs (West End) (6).
26 Gratuity, say, will suffice for a drink (6).
27 Some hate the really refined (8).

DOWN
1 Roly-poly boy is a bit of a debauchee (7).
3 Organ bellows-mender's instrument (4-5).
4 Nice as pie, this cheese maker (6).
5 County takes wickets in London (9,6).
6 15 for someone on the rocks? (8).
7 Extravagant chairman needs employment (7).
8 Scattering a girl's pearls all over the place (9).
13 Biblical advice to the sluggard in retrospect (9).
15 He recovers possession and gets game (9).
16 Jewish formalist undone by Eastern harpies (8).
18 Intoxicating drink served in breakfast cup? (3-4).
20 Absence of mind clearly not suffered by Proust (7).
21 Seating for the tourist class on a Jumbo? (6).

Concise crossword, page 10

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

SINAPISM
a. An Old Wives' remedy
b. Bee veterinary medicine
c. Over-spicing

SKUTTERUDITE
a. Obscenely learned
b. Back-biting
c. Arsenide of cobalt

CATTLE CALL
a. Irish yodelling
b. An audition
c. An auctioneer's cry

SENARY
a. Six
b. White charlock
c. Television back-projection

Solutions page 16, column 8

The solution to yesterday's qualifying puzzle No 17,565 will appear on Monday January 25

WEATHER

Northern Ireland and western coastal Britain will have further showers. Eastern and central Britain will be dry with overnight frost and fog, and some cloud near the coast of south-east England. Sunny intervals in most places. Temperatures near average. Outlook:Mainly dry with frost, fog, and sunny intervals. Later on Sunday cloudier weather with occasional rain will reach the northwest. Colder.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; fg, fog; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow; sl, sleet; t, thunder.

	C	F		C	F
Ajaccio	c	14	57	Madrid	c	4	39
Alex'dria	c	16	61	Malaga	f	14	57
Algiers	c	15	61	Malta	s	16	64
Athens	c	11	52	Melb'rne	f	28	82
Bahrain	s	19	66	Miami*	s	25	77
Barbados*	c	27	81	Montreal*	c	-10	14
Belgrade	fg	-1	30	Moscow	s	-1	30
Berlin	s	1	34	Nairobi	f	26	79
Bermuda*	s	21	70	N Delhi	s	18	64
Borde'x	c	6	43	N York*	c	3	37
Budapest	c	-2	28	Oslo	r	4	39
B Aires*	f	30	86	Paris	s	8	46
Cairo	f	18	61	Peking	s	5	41
Cape Tn	s	23	73	Prague	c	0	32
C'blanca	f	16	61	Reykjvik	s	-3	27
Chicago*	s	-10	14	Rhodes	f	13	55
Cologne	r	7	45	Rio de J	s	32	90
Corfu	f	14	57	Riyadh	s	17	63
Dublin	s	8	46	S Fr'sco*	r	9	48
Dubrovnik	s	14	57	Santiago*	s	27	81
Florence	c	10	50	S Paulo*	c	29	84
Frankfurt	r	2	36	Seoul	r	9	48
Funchal	r	18	61	St'kholm	c	2	36
Geneva	c	4	39	Strasb'rg	fg	1	34
Gibraltar	s	15	59	Sydney	s	27	81
Helsinki	c	3	37	Tel aviv	f	16	61
Hong K	s	21	70	Toronto*	s	-10	14
Istanbul	f	7	45	Valencia	f	12	54
Jeddah	f	29	84	Vanc'ver*	c	5	41
Jo'burg*	f	27	81	Vienna	c	-1	30
Karachi	s	23	73	Warsaw	c	2	36
L Palmas	c	18	64	Wash'ton*	s	6	43
Le Touet	f	9	48	Wel'ton	c	17	63
Lisbon	c	11	52	Zurich	r	2	36

* denotes Wednesday's figures are latest available

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarboro	0.3	-	5	41	shower
Hunstanton	4.9	.01	8	46	bright
Lowestoft	4.7	.19	9	48	sunny
Margate	-	*	10	50	sunny
Folkestone	4.6	.33	10	50	sunny
Brighton	6.0	.23	10	50	sunny
Bognor R	5.6	.01	9	48	sunny
Sandown	5.2	.05	10	50	sunny
Shanklin	4.1	.07	10	50	sunny
Bournemth	3.3	.13	10	50	shower
Swanage	3.6	.12	10	50	shower
Torquay	2.0	.25	11	52	bright
Scilly Isles	-	.16	10	50	shower
Guernsey	6.7	-	11	52	sunny
Newquay	3.1	.13	9	48	bright
Ilfracombe	-	.01	10	50	sunny
Morecambe	4.7	-	7	45	bright
Douglas	-	.18	8	46	cloudy
Phwn Aispt	5.4	.01	8	46	sunny
Bristol (Cnt)	5.8	.05	11	52	sunny
Carlisle	2.8	.01	8	46	shower
London	5.5	.08	10	50	thundr
Manchester	3.8	-	8	46	sunny
N'cstl-n-Tyne	3.1	-	4	39	bright
Nottingham	4.4	-	8	46	sunny
Anglesey	2.9	.16	9	48	hail
Tenby	3.0	.05	10	50	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	0.4	.06	5	41	shower
Glasgow	5.1	.02	9	48	sunny
Lerwick	2.5	-	7	45	sunny
Tiree	3.8	-	8	46	shower
Wick	5.5	-	7	45	sunny
Belfast	4.6	.01	8	46	rain

* Denotes figures not available

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.32	5.8	10.20	5.9
Aberdeen	9.46	3.5	10.03	3.6
Avonmouth	2.50	10.0	3.22	10.5
Belfast	7.16	2.9	7.45	3.1
Cardiff	2.35	9.4	3.07	9.8
Devonport	1.08	4.4	1.36	4.5
Dover	6.45	5.5	7.33	5.8
Falmouth	12.36	4.2	1.06	4.3
Glasgow	8.39	4.2	8.55	4.6
Harwich	7.28	3.3	8.15	3.3
Holyhead	6.36	4.5	7.03	4.6
Hull	1.55	6.0	2.42	5.9
Ilfracombe	1.38	7.0	2.11	7.2
Leith	10.47	4.5	11.18	4.6
Liverpool	7.14	7.5	7.42	7.7
Lowestoft	5.18	2.1	6.15	2.1
Margate	7.44	3.9	8.36	4.0
Milford Haven	1.56	5.3	2.29	5.5
Newquay	12.57	5.4	1.28	5.6
Oban	2.06	3.1	2.16	3.2
Penzance	12.22	4.4	12.50	4.5
Portland	2.11	1.5	2.41	1.5
Portsmouth	7.17	4.0	7.58	3.8
Shoreham	7.01	5.0	7.40	5.0
Southampton	7.05	3.9	7.43	3.7
Swansea	2.05	7.4	2.34	7.6
Tees	—	—	12.17	4.4
W'ton-on-Nze	7.24	3.5	8.13	3.5

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.28ft. Times are GMT

THE POUND

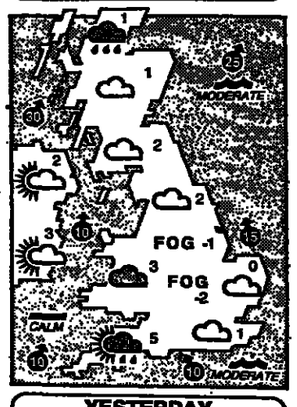
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.65	2.51
Austria Sch	21.75	20.85
Belgium Fr	64.50	61.60
Canada $	2.43	2.31
Denmark Kr	11.87	11.27
Finland Mkk	7.60	7.20
France Fr	10.41	9.91
Germany Dm	3.095	2.935
Greece Dr	259	239
Hong Kong $	14.60	13.80
Ireland Pl	1.168	1.108
Italy Lire	2285	2155
Japan Yen	249	235
Netherlands Gld	3.47	3.30
Norway Kr	11.95	11.35
Portugal Esc	252.75	239.75
South Africa Rd	4.50	3.80
Spain Pta	209.25	198.25
Sweden Kr	11.19	10.64
Switzerland Fr	2.51	2.39
USA $	1.88	1.80
Yugoslavia Dnr	2760	2050

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

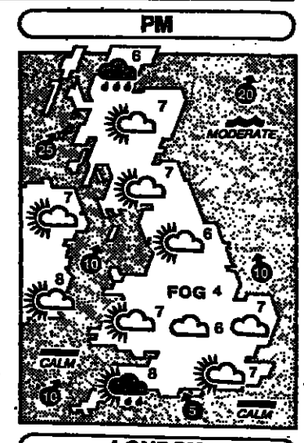
Retail Price Index: 103.4 (November)

London: The *FT* index closed up 7.6 at 1398.7.

AM



PM



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	7	45	Guernsey	s	9	48
B'ringham	s	7	45	Inverness	s	7	45
Blackpool	s	6	43	Jersey	f	8	46
Bristol	s	9	48	London	s	9	48
Cardiff	s	9	48	M'chester	s	6	43
Edinburgh	s	7	45	Newcastle	f	3	37
Glasgow	s	7	45	R'caldeway	r	7	45

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8C (46F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 2C (36F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.6 hr.

Sun rises: 8.00 am
Sun sets: 4.20 pm
Moon rises 4.29 am
Moon sets 11.57 am
New Moon January 19

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10C (50F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 7C (45F). Humidity: 6 pm, 80 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.08 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 5.5 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1013.7 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

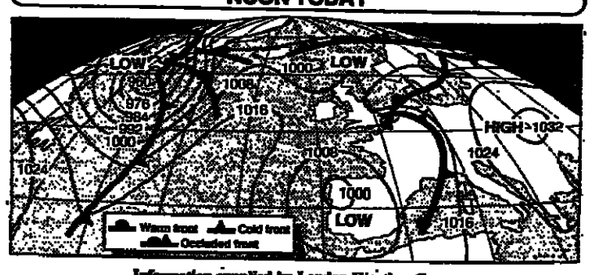
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, and Penzance, Cornwall, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Highland, 6C (43F); highest rainfall: Tenby, Dyfed, 0.78 in; highest sunshine: Kinloss, Grampian, 8.2 hr.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 4.50 pm to 7.29 am
Bristol 5.00 pm to 7.39 am
Edinburgh 4.40 pm to 8.04 am
Manchester 4.49 pm to 7.47 am
Penzance 5.17 pm to 7.45 am

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

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PART 2

FRIDAY JANUARY 15 1988

THE TIMES

19

BUSINESS AND FINANCE 19-24
SPORT 30-34

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1398.7 (+7.6)

FT-SE 100
1743.4 (+10.0)

Bargains
20191 (20826)

USM (Datastream)
143.19 (+0.53)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.8175 (–0.0085)

W German mark
2.9743 (–0.0094)

Trade-weighted
75.2 (–0.1)

B&D writ in battle for Dee

The £2 billion bid by Barker & Dobson for Dee Corporation became increasingly acrimonious yesterday when B&D issued a writ against Dee and its advisers, Lazard Brothers, for libel allegedly contained in their press notice of Wednesday.

The Dee press release stated that B&D would be in breach of at least two covenants of the £1.6 billion loan agreement, if it succeeded in taking over Dee.

Mr John Fletcher, B&D's chairman, yesterday wrote to Dee shareholders urging them to accept the offer and accused Dee of giving shareholders only half the story.

Comment, page 21

Howden leaps

Howden Group, the Glasgow engineer, made pretax profits in the six months to end-October of £3.6 million, against £1.5 million the previous first half. Turnover dropped to £66 million from £75 million. The interim dividend was maintained at 1.28p.

Tempus, page 20

Parkfield rise

Interim pretax profits at Parkfield Group, the fast-growing engineering and distribution group, jumped 77 per cent to £4.6 million, on turnover up 50 per cent to £84.4 million. The dividend was doubled to 2p net a share.

Tempus, page 20

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	
Dow Jones	1929.54 (+4.81)*
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	22603.65 (+278.66)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	2411.52 (+27.73)
Amsterdam: Gen	210.1 (+3.5)
Sydney: AO	1254.2 (–8.8)
Frankfurt:	
Commerzbank	1259.6 (+12.8)
Brussels:	
General	3686.7 (–11.3)
Paris: CAC	271.3 (–0.7)
Zurich: SKA Gen	404.7 (–4.0)
London:	
FT.–A All-Share	690.22 (+5.51)
FT.– "500"	978.74 (+5.74)
FT. Gold Mines	284.1 (–2.0)
FT. Fixed interest	94.44 (–0.02)
FT. Govt Secs	87.56 (–0.59)

Recent issues Page 28
Closing prices Page 23

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:

Unigate	301½p (+15p)
Glaxo	995p (+17p)
Henderson Admin	750p (+25p)
Fisons	264½p (+15p)
A Kershaw	355p (+20p)
J Jarvis	700p (+25p)
Multitone Elect	56½p (+14p)
Lasmo	296½p (+10p)
Vibroplant	590p (+20p)
Cookson	539p (+16p)
S & W Berisford	318½p (+16p)
Harrison Cros	579p (+15p)
British Aerospace	353p (+11p)

FALLS:

Hanover Druce	200p (–10p)
Brierly	60½p (–13p)
Marler	505p (–15p)
Elys (Wimbledon)	605p (–20p)
Sun Alliance	831p (–15p)
Bridport Grundy	185½p (–17p)
Pearson	738p (–33p)

Closing prices

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 8½%
3-month interbank 9-8¹⁵⁄₁₆%
3-month eligible bills: 8¹⁷⁄₃₂-8¹⁵⁄₃₂% buying rate
US: Prime Rate 8¾%
Federal Funds 8¹³⁄₁₆%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.78-5.76%*
30-year bonds 98¼-98³²⁄₃₂*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.8175	£: $1.8180*
£: DM2.6743	$: DM1.6372*
£: SwFr2.4282	$: SwFr1.3370*
£: FFr10.0544	$: FFr5.5290*
£: Yen230.19	$: Yen126.75*
£: Index75.2	$: Index83.3
ECU £0.692591	SDR £0.758204

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $480.90 pm $480.40
close $481.75-482.25 (£264.75-265.25)
New York:
Comex $482.70-483.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Feb.) pm $16.30bbl ($16.30)
* Denotes latest trading price

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Oil independent says offer 'substantially undervalues' its assets

BP launches £2bn Britoil bid

By Carol Ferguson

British Petroleum yesterday formally launched its £2.27 billion takeover bid for Britoil, Britain's largest independent oil and gas exploration and production company.

The offer is not conditional on the outcome of any discussions BP may have with the Government on the so-called Golden Share, which gives the Government voting control of the Britoil board.

By coincidence, Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Energy, was at Britoil's Upper Belgrave Street headquarters in London yesterday, for a meeting of the British committee of the World Energy Conference, whose membership consists of leading oil companies. The Department of Energy has assured *The Times* that this was "a long-standing diary appointment", and had nothing to with the bid.

As expected, the cash offer of 450p a share was supplemented with a share alternative. Britoil's shareholders can opt for one BP share and 190p in cash. By yesterday's close, BP shares had fallen to 252p, giving a cash plus shares value of 442p, 8p below the all-cash offer. Britoil shares closed last night at 459p.

As an inducement to Britoil shareholders to accept, BP compares its offer with the Britoil share price immediately before it started to accumulate shares. It calculates that compared with the Britoil price of 187p on December 7, it is offering a 140 per cent increase in capital and a 227 per cent increase in income (184 per cent if the share alternative is accepted).

BP criticizes Atlantic Richfield's attempt to build up a 49.9 per cent stake in Britoil through an issue of new shares and market purchases. It says this allows Arco "effectively to control Britoil without paying an adequate premium, and without giving the remaining Britoil shareholders an opportunity to sell."

BP says that while BP and Britoil have approximately the same amount of acreage in Britain, "BP's exploration efforts in 1986 and 1987 were very much greater". BP also casts doubt on Britoil's finances, saying it does not have "the financial resilience necessary to exploit its large exploration portfolio as rapidly and effectively as it deserves".

Britoil, which is expected to write to its shareholders next week to explain why they should reject the offer, said yesterday that the bid "substantially undervalues the assets of Britoil".

Mr David Walker, Britoil's chief executive, said that Britoil participated in more wells than BP in the last five years and was a partner in more fields. "We have 20 projects to come on in the next five years and we can fund it," he said. "We have near-zero debt and substantial borrowing capacity, and we will be spending £100 million a year on exploration to replace our reserves."

He said 50 per cent of the money for exploration would be spent on overseas prospects this year, rising to 60 per cent in future years. He added: "We can maintain our production for the next 10 years with no further discoveries on an energy equivalent basis."

As part of its defence, Britoil has asked ERC, the energy research consultants, to produce an independent valuation of its assets. Mr Walker said: "We are confident that it will establish Britoil's asset value at a level substantially higher than 450p a share."

Many analysts have sympathy with Britoil's claim. Mr Mike Unsworth, an analyst at Smith New Court, the securities firm, said yesterday that Britoil's fully taxed asset value for "hard assets" – proven and semi-proven – is 410p to 420p. But he adds: "Taking into account acreage and other possibly commercial discoveries it is not difficult to get up to 500p a share."

The offer has been cleared by the Takeover Panel. However the Office of Fair Trading is looking at the bid.

BP guarantees base in Scotland

After the acquisition of Britoil, BP plans to make Glasgow the business headquarters and decision centre of its combined British oil and gas exploration and production business.

About 98 per cent of Britoil's 1,700 employees are based in Scotland, mainly in its Glasgow headquarters, Aberdeen and offshore. Britoil also has offices in London, Jakarta, Bangkok and Cairo.

BP already has a substantial presence in Scotland where it has been operating for many years. Of the 28,000 total BP employees in Britain, more than 6,000 are in Scotland, where BP's operations include North Sea exploration and development and the huge Grangemouth refinery.

BP said Aberdeen would continue as an operations headquarters, and it did not expect total employee numbers in Glasgow and Aberdeen, taking Britoil and BP together, to fall

Opposition has already been voiced in Scotland by Mr Donald Dewar, the Labour MP and Shadow Scottish Secretary.



Comings and goings at Britoil's London office yesterday: Cecil Parkinson (top), and Britoil's David Walker (left) and chairman Sir Philip Shelbourne (Photographs: John Manning)

Lawson hits out at US policies

By Rodney Lord
Economics Editor

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, again attacked US economic policies yesterday, urging the Reagan Administration to make further cuts in its budget deficit.

Mr Lawson, speaking in the Commons debate on the Autumn Statement, gave a warning that to bring the world economy back towards balance, the US economy would have to grow more slowly than Japan's or West Germany's for some time. While stopping short of calling for a rise in interest rates, he said the level of US savings was too low.

Mr Lawson welcomed the Administration's intervention in foreign exchange markets, ending the impression of "benign neglect" of the dollar. He said it was just as important to stabilize the US currency now, and give US trade a chance to adjust to currency changes, as it had been to try and do so last February when the Louvre accord on exchange-rate stability was signed. But it was idle to suppose that intervention alone was a coherent policy.

Mr Lawson's remarks coincided with a moderate recovery in the dollar. The agreement announced by President Reagan and Mr Noboru Takeshita, Japan's prime minister, to increase collaboration on currency intervention, temporarily curbed traders' appetite for selling the dollar.

The US and Japan have agreed to swap US Special Drawing Rights for yen which can then be used to support the dollar. Japan also promised to "accommodate" lower interest rates.

But the markets remained sceptical. Mr Steven Bell of Morgan Grenfell said: "The swap arrangements are irrelevant. The Fed has never been constrained by lack of finance, only by lack of will."

Meanwhile, European interest rates fell further. The Dutch central bank cut the rate on special advances to the money market, which was seen as preliminary to a ¼ per cent cut in leading rates.

In Rome, the Banco di Santo Spirito cut its prime lending rate by ½ per cent to 12½ per cent. And four leading Swiss banks cut their time deposit rates by ¾ per cent.

The dollar closed 25 points higher in London at DM1.6365 and 10 points up at Y126.65. Trading was nervous before today's US November trade figures, expected to show a deficit between $15 billion and $22 billion. The pound closed 30 points lower at DM2.9774 and 95 points down at $1.8175.

Comment, page 21

Seagram close to victory

By Joe Joseph

Seagram, the Canadian spirits company, appears to have sealed its victory in the battle with Grand Metropolitan for control of Martell after France's Stockbrokers' Association last night gave both parties clearance to bid.

Seagram, with 14.17 per cent of Martell, has the higher bid on the table and what appears to be the blessing of the Martell family and its decisive 41 per cent stake. "We are pleased that our application has been approved. In light of the Martell family's statement, tendering of the family's shares may now proceed, which would give Seagram majority control," a spokesman said.

He was referring to a statement on Monday – shortly after Seagram capped GrandMet's £391 bid with a £412 million offer – in which the Martell family welcomed Seagram's bid as in the "best interest of Martell."

A spokesman for the Martell family said after news of the clearance that it would tender its stake immediately.

GrandMet said it had not conceded defeat and was taking advice on its next step. While it is free to file another bid, the chances of success would appear to be dim.

Jobless decline slows as pay accelerates

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

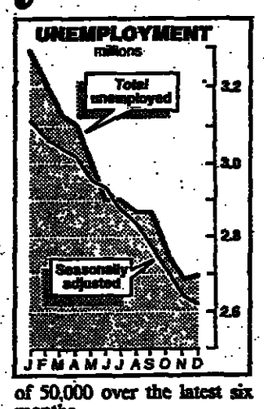
Unemployment fell by 35,400 last month, its 18th successive decline, completing a year in which the fall in the jobless total exceeded half a million.

But there are signs of an acceleration in pay. Average earnings rose by an underlying 8.25 per cent in the 12 months to November, the fastest rate of increase since November 1982. In October, the rate of increase was 8 per cent and in September 7.75 per cent.

The main reason for the acceleration in earnings growth was the local authority manual workers' pay settlement, although there is also evidence of higher settlements in manufacturing industry.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, said: "Prospects for employment remain good but they could be undermined by excessive pay awards ... settlements in both the public and private sectors are running at too high a level."

Yesterday's labour market statistics presented a contradictory picture for the economy. The fall in the adjusted unemployment total of 35,400 to 2,614,000, or 9.4 per cent of the working population, compared with a 62,900 drop in November, and an average fall of 50,000 over the latest six months.



In addition, there was a fall of 11,600 to 256,600 in seasonally adjusted vacancies, the first drop since February, and the biggest monthly fall since October 1980.

Officials at the Department of Employment said that the figures for last month were not inconsistent with the estimated trend decline in unemployment of 50,000 a month.

However, the figures could be taken as the first tentative evidence that unemployment will decline at a slower rate from now on, in line with the expected slowdown in the economy.

Mr Kevin Boakes, economist at Greenwell-Montagu Gilt-Edged, said the fall in unemployment would slow to 20,000 a month over the next few months, and grind to a halt entirely by the middle of the year.

Unadjusted unemployment rose by 10,227 last month to 2,695,810, or 9.7 per cent of the working population.

The earnings figures, and the data for overtime – showing a 40,000 rise to a record 13.78 million in the average weekly hours worked in manufacturing – in contrast to the December jobs data, appeared to validate worries that the economy is overheating.

Mr Bill Martin, economist at Phillips & Drew, said that the acceleration in earnings was "rather a worrying sign".

In the House of Commons, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Mr John Major, said in response to a Parliamentary question: "We do not see any signs of overheating."

The earnings figures referred to November and the jobs data to December. One possible interpretation of the two sets of figures is that the economy was carried along by its pre-stock market crash momentum into November, but began to slow in December.

County NatWest chief steps down

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Mr Brian Winterflood resigned yesterday as head of market-making at County NatWest, the securities and merchant banking arm of National Westminster Bank, becoming the first high-level casualty of the merger with Wood Mackenzie.

County executives said the departure was the result of a personality clash with Mr John Chiene, head of Wood Mac, who takes over as chief executive of County's securities operations next Friday.

Mr Jonathan Cohen, chief executive of County NatWest, said: "There were no huge matters of principle or policy involved in this resignation. Nor do I believe that the issue of redundancies was a significant factor."

Mr Winterflood said: "It was a clash of cultures and ideas." He is understood to have been unhappy with the formation of committees and tighter management controls from above resulting from the Wood Mac merger and that as many employees from County as from Wood Mac were likely to be dismissed because of the merger.

Mr Winterflood's deputy, Mr Mark Potashnick, takes over his position.

Polly Peck franchised to sell pizzas to young Turks

Nadir scales new heights

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

Taking coals to Newcastle has nothing on taking Italian-American fast food to Turkey. Yet that is the latest unlikely venture of Mr Asil Nadir's ever-surprising Polly Peck International.

The Turkish-centred trading group announced just in time for its annual meeting in London yesterday that it had signed a franchise agreement with Pepsico to set up a chain of the American soft drinks group's Pizza Hut restaurants.

Polly Peck has exclusive rights to run Pizza Hut outlets in Turkey for 10 years. The first restaurant will open in Istanbul this year, to be followed by further outlets in Turkey's largest city and in Ankara, Izmir, Adana and other urban centres. There could be many more.

Turks love eating out and, after giving the doner kebab to the world, have themselves developed a liking for western food.

Mr Tony Reading, the joint managing director and Polly Peck's new recruit from BTR, explains that young people in big Turkish cities, like their counterparts in London or Tokyo, have a taste for western international theme food restaurants.

Individual pizza parlours already exist in Turkey, he says. McDonald's has done well, although some international chains have been slow to see the potential in an increasingly westernized country with a population of 54 million.



Istanbul-bound: Asil Nadir

Pepsico regards Pizza Hut, basically a sit-down retaurant, as somewhat upmarket from hamburgers. It is the world's largest pizza chain, with more than 6,000 restaurants in 50 countries.

Both Polly Peck and Pepsico believe there is plenty of potential in Turkey, in part catering for a growing tourist market.

Mr Reading says the Pizza Huts, apart from buying tomatoes and oranges from other Polly Peck subsidiaries, will form part of a new leisure division. The other part is represented by a new Turkish luxury tourist hotel, also planned to be the first of a chain.

The fortunes of Mr Nadir's one-time dress manufacturer were made when he muscled in on the agricultural trade of Northern Cyprus, in the wake of the Turkish invasion, when few others would take the risk.

Agriculture-based industries still delivered £73 million of last year's group profit of £86 million, dwarfing textiles and the group's other new area, consumer electronics.

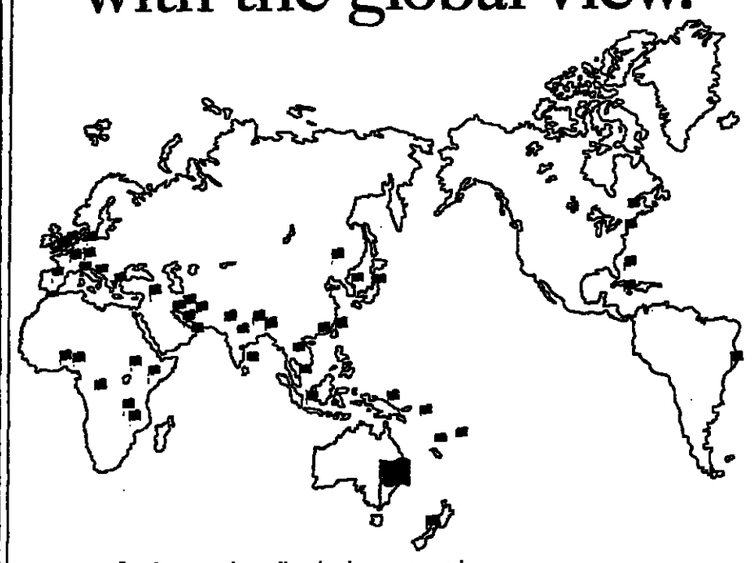
At yesterday's meeting Mr Nadir remained optimistic about his strategy of making low-cost, high-quality basic goods for world markets, even in more difficult times.

Business in the first three months of the new financial year starting in September had been "most satisfactory."

After plunging almost 50 per cent in the October market crash, Polly Peck's shares have staged a modest recovery this year, increasing from 290p to 314p yesterday, a rise of 6p on the day.

That owes something to recommendations from long-term City fans, but more to buying by Mr Nadir, by far Polly Peck's largest shareholder.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Hogg Robinson buys Minster for £600,000

Hogg Robinson, the travel, transport, estate agency and financial services group, yesterday announced it was spending £600,000 on Minster Executive, a firm specializing in executive career counselling. The addition to the financial services division follows the £400,000 acquisition announced last week of Williams & Chivers, a medical insurance and counselling company.

Minster's services are used by companies to advise executives being made redundant and help them find new jobs. It concentrates on those earning £25,000 a year and more, but Hogg Robinson said its operations could be extended down to lower earners on a seminar or collective rather than individual basis. The purchase price is being met mainly in shares, with £60,000 cash.

68% accept Crucible offer

The open share offer to shareholders of Morgan Crucible, the industrial materials group, of 30 million new 7.5p (net) convertible preference shares of £1 each, linked with its £37 million purchase of McDermott International, the insulating products group, has closed. Applications were received for 20.4 million shares (68 per cent), and the remainder placed with institutions.

Half-year rise for Barbour

Barbour Index, which provides information services to the construction and health and safety markets, made pretax profits of £1.9 million (£1.56 million) on a turnover of £3.9 million (£3.2 million) in the half year to October 31. The proposed interim dividend is 2p (1.5p) and earnings per share are 14.6p. Existing services are selling well and on budget, the company said.

Bridport-Gundry falls

Shares in Bridport-Gundry, the fishing and military nets manufacturer, sank 15p to 188p yesterday after Mr Robert Holder, the chairman, warned shareholders of a difficult year and probably lower profits. He told the annual meeting that the company's defence-related businesses, Bridport Aviation Products and Brownell, had suffered from a lack of orders for camouflage netting and that the foreign contracts needed for Bridport to meet its budget had yet to materialize.

He said that while producing marine netting could make up much of the shortfall, margins here were lower and in the absence of new camouflage orders for the second half, Bridport would be facing a profits setback. He added that the traditional imbalance between the company's performance in the first and second halves was likely to grow as a result of Bridport's heavy dependence on fishing this year and the lack of defence business in America in the first half.

Doeflex delay hits profits

Group profits at Doeflex Industries', the newly listed plastics group, have been affected by a one-year delay in its plan to move production of its coatings and adhesives division from Redhill, Surrey to Maidstone, Kent, the company said. The delay had involved significantly higher costs than expected but is now under way. Group results are expected in April.

Jones Stroud up to £2.78m

Jones Stroud (Holdings), the electrical insulation and elastic fabrics group, lifted profits from £2.23 million to £2.78 million in the six months to end-September, and expects to make about £5.8 million in the full year, against £4.6 million. Turnover for the half-year was £25.48 million, against £21.78 million and the interim dividend rises from an adjusted 1.75p to 2p.

French GDP up 1.2%

France's gross domestic product rose 1.2 per cent in the third quarter of last year, at 1980 prices, after 1.0 per cent growth in the second quarter, the National Statistics Institute said. This was an upward revision from the provisional estimate of 1.1 per cent. For the first nine months of 1987, GDP grew 1.9 per cent against 2.1 per cent in 1986 and 1.4 per cent in 1985. Revision of the third quarter growth figure was due mainly to revised foreign trade figures.

French consumer prices rose a provisional 0.1 per cent in December, giving a year-on-year rise of 3.1 per cent, unchanged on November. December was the eighth consecutive month when prices rose by 0.2 per cent or less. The institute said 1987's 3.1 per cent inflation rate was the lowest for more than 15 years, excluding energy costs. Last year the government forecast an annual rate for 1987 of 3.4 per cent, after 2.1 per cent in 1986. Its target for this year is 2.5 per cent.

STOCK MARKET

Optimism about US trade figures brings small gains

By Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

The London stock market was taking an optimistic line yesterday about the US trade figures, which are being published later today, with share prices scoring small gains in thin trading.

Dealers are now confident that the figures will not be as bad as some economists had earlier forecast. Most estimates have pitched the deficit at about $15 billion compared with last month's record $17.3 billion. But several experts have claimed that the figure could be as high as $20 billion, leading to another collapse in share prices around the world.

This is now thought unlikely, although most fund managers have decided that discretion is the better part of valour and have remained fixed firmly on the sidelines until the announcement is made.

The FT-SE 100 closed 10.0 points up at 1,743.4, having been 19.0 up at its best, despite another hesitant start to trading on Wall Street. Turnover amounted to a meagre 352.2 million shares. The narrower FT index of 30 shares closed 7.6 points up at 1,398.7.

One leading broker commented: "Even if the trade figures are worse than expected and Wall Street falls out of bed, the London market is in better shape to resist the downward pull."

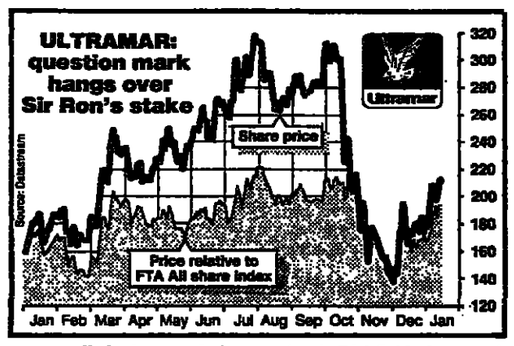
Government securities were a bright spot with gains stretching to £1 at the longer end. The index-linked stocks also rose by £1, encouraged by the prospect of higher inflation following the latest average earnings statistics.

Counter-bid talk swirled around **Dee Corporation**, Britain's third-largest supermarkets group, which is on the receiving end of a £2 billion hostile offer from **Barker & Dobson**, the much smaller sweets manufacturer and Budgen retailer.

There was early talk that ASDA-MFI, the rival cash-rich supermarket group, was about to bid 250p a share in order to get its hands on Dee's superstores. Dee responded by touching 214p at one stage.

A denial by ASDA-MFI of any such intention only served to set off fresh speculation about a possible increased offer from B&D. There were also suggestions that Mr Garry Weston's **Associated British Foods** might step into the fray. AB Foods already owns a 15 per cent stake in Dee, amounting to 135 million shares, which it received as part payment for the sale of its Fine Fare supermarket chain.

The rest of the day saw dealers keeping a close eye on their Topic screens, awaiting developments while some good two-way trade developed. Dee eventually closed 9p better at 205p on a turnover of more than 13 million shares.



● Fisons stood out with a 15p gain to 265p after a lunch with Warburg Securities. Warburg, already a big fan of the shares, was clearly impressed with what the company had to say. "This lunch just reinforced our favourable view", said Mr Ian Broadhurst, analyst at Warburg.

Barker & Dobson ended 3p higher at 143p and AB Foods finished 6p dearer at 310p.

Takeover fever again hit the oil sector as **Britoil** rejected **BP's** formal bid document which included a part-share alternative to the already controversial £2.3 billion cash offer.

The new terms being offered are one ordinary BP share plus 190p cash, valuing each Britoil share at 449p. Britoil reacted to the news — and the board's rejection — by slipping 6p to 459p. BP cheapened 2p to 252p with the new partly-paid closing unchanged at the overnight level of 72.5p.

Dealers now believe that Atlantic Richfield, the American group which currently sits on a near-24 per cent stake in Britoil, will try to increase this to at least 25 per cent and then launch a counter-offer.

Ultramar, the petroleum exploration and development group, shrugged off an early fall to finish the day another 9p higher at 214p — making a two-day lead of 19p. There has been persistent talk this week that Sir Ron Brierley's IEP Securities has sold, or is about to sell, its 12.9 per cent stake in the company to a possible predator. But Sir Ron is apparently denying the stories.

He told one City analyst: "If I had a pound for every time someone asked me if I had sold my stake in Ultramar, I would be a very rich man."

Sir Ron is probably one of the best known of the antipodean corporate raiders. A few years ago, he rescued Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn and has since built up stakes in **Redfearn**, the bottle and packaging group, unchanged at 454p, **Scottish & Newcastle Breweries**, 4p up at 210p and Equity & Law, which was recently bought by Compagnie du Midi, the French financial services group.

London & Scottish Marine Oil, the independent oil company, continued to be chased higher as takeover hopes intensified. The shares moved up smartly, to close a further 10p up at 297p.

RTZ, the mining conglomerate which holds nearly 30 per cent of the shares, is now free to bid for the rest of the capital and dealers feel that the acquisitive group will soon do just that.

Lasmo increased its stake in its rival, **Enterprise Oil**, to 25.35 per cent before Christmas and this was widely interpreted as being a defensive move with the board worried about a possible move by RTZ.

Shares of RTZ gained 17p to 380p as investors paid heed to a buy recommendation from Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker.

Shares of Enterprise gained 6p afresh to 270p on talk that RTZ will bid for both Lasmo and Enterprise and that the new group will be headed by Mr Chris Greentree, the Canadian chief executive at Lasmo.

Speculators who had aggressively bought shares of **Pearson**, the industrial conglomerate which publishes the *Financial Times*, late on Wednesday, hoping for a full bid, came down to earth with a bump yesterday when the price retreated 35p to 735p, after 728p.

This followed Mr Murdoch's reported denial that he had "no intention to make a takeover offer for the group" after increasing his stake in Pearson to nearly 20 per cent by acquiring Mr Carlo de Benedetti's 5.3 per cent stake for £94.7 million.

● Wood Mackenzie, the broker, is worried about Racal Electronics' premium rating which it claims may restrict the shares short term. But it adds that the group's prospects in cellular radio in the longer term should see it outperforming the market. The price fell 1p to 235p.

Shares of **Wellcome** rebounded 12p to 385p as more than 2 million shares changed hands. Having fallen by 8p duringthe previous day on reports that scientists at Porton Down, the Government research centre, have developed a new anti-herpes drug to compete with its own herpes treatment, Zovirax, the shares rallied after startling news from across the Atlantic.

Reports that almost one in every 60 babies born in New York City last month was infected with the Aids virus made dealers hopeful that sales of its Retrovir anti-Aids drug will continue to grow despite the fall in the dollar.

WORLD MARKETS ROUNDUP: NEW YORK

Investors stay on the sidelines

(Agencies) — Shares generally remained unchanged in early trading yesterday as investors awaited the US merchandise trade deficit report, due today. Brokers said that while apprehension had lessened, investors were still unwilling to go long or short before the report.

The Dow Jones industrial average was unchanged at 1,924.73 and rising shares were evenly matched by falling ones.

In the active issues, Texaco was up by ½ to 38 despite the Internal Revenue Service warning that it may owe $6.5 billion in back taxes.

On Wednesday, the Dow average closed 3.82 points lower at 1,924.73.

● **Waltham, Massachusetts** — Thermo Electron Corporation has authorized the repurchase by its Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) of an additional $4 million of its own shares and those of its five publicly-held subsidiaries. The ESOP will buy $2 million of Thermo Electron shares and $2 million of its subsidiaries' shares.

The five subsidiaries are Thermo Process Systems, Thermo Environmental Corporation, Thermedics Inc, Tecogen Inc and Thermo Instrument Systems Inc. On a prior authorization, the ESOP had bought a total of $4.7 million of Thermo Electron's and Thermedics' stock.

● Bank of New York reported that growth in net interest income, largely as a result of a 27 per cent gain in average loans, helped to boost fourth-quarter net income to a record $45.9 million from $38.5 million in the same 1986 period. Earnings per share reached $1.24 from $1.12 a year earlier.

Net income for the full year was $103.4 million or $2.81 per share compared with $155.2 million or $4.45 a share in 1986.

Net income includes provisions for loan losses of $35 million against $40.5 million in the similar quarter last year and $300.8 million for the full year compared with $142 million.

FRANKFURT

Prices end mixed in dull trade

(Reuter) — Share prices ended a quiet bourse mixed and near the worst levels of the day, pushed down from opening highs by lack of demand and speculation that Deutsche Bank would cut its dividend on 1987 results.

The bank declined to comment. Itpaid an unchanged 12-mark (£4) dividend on 1986 earnings but also paid a special bonus of DM5 on 1986 results which was not paid on the previous year's earnings.

Shares had firmed, helped by a stronger dollar and gains in Tokyo, but fell later because of reluctance to buy before today's US trade figures.

The Commerzbank index of 60 leading shares, calculated at mid-session, rose 12.8 points or 1.0 per cent to 1,259.6. Deutsche Bank dropped DM7 to 384.50.

TOKYO

Nikkei gains 278 as fears subside

(Reuter) — Share prices closed higher yesterday as the market brushed aside concern about US November trade data, due today. Dealers took heart from more stable exchange rates, and good news from Washington about US-Japan economic co-ordination, to buy blue-chip issues, brokers said.

"People were fed up with talking about the trade figures and decided to get on with the market," said Mr Stephen Codrington, head of equities at Jardine Fleming.

The Nikkei average gained 278.66 points, or 1.28 per cent, to 22,603.65. It had sunk 300.06 on Wednesday. Rises led falls 2.4 to one, in volume of 480 million shares against 430 million the day before.

Communications, securities house, bank, electronics, retail, credit-lease, pharmaceutical, pulp-paper, auto and some manufacturing issues led the advance.

Reports from Washington that Japan and the US have secured funds for intervention if needed to prevent a further dollar decline boosted market sentiment, brokers said.

A Japan-US statement reaffirmed a pledge to stabilize currencies, which a US official said could include sale by the US of special drawing rights (SDRs) for yen. The yen could be used to buy dollars in the open market.

The dollar's relative stability yesterday prompted individual investors to buy blue-chip electronic issues, which have proven resilient recently even in the face of an appreciating yen, brokers said. Hitachi rose Y40 to Y1,260, Sony Y120 to Y4,900, and Fujitsu Y50 to Y1,440.

SYDNEY

Shares fall as market plays safe

(Reuter) — The share market drifted to a lower, lacklustre close as investors continued to sit on the sidelines ahead of today's US trade figures.

Brokers said a slight fall in the Dow Jones index overnight and little improvement in base metal and bullion prices increased nervousness, with most activity centred on special situation shares. The All-Ordinaries index closed 8.6 points down at 1,264.2.

Turnover was thin with 97.58 million shares worth Aus$125.22 million (£48.5 million) changing hands.

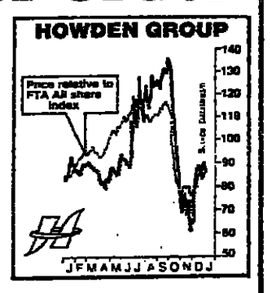
Special play and takeover targets dominated turnover.

Elders Resources, involved in a Aus$1.9 billion reverse takeover bid for New Zealand Forest Products, climbed a cent to 2.21.

TEMPUS

Howden looks in better order

The fortunes of Howden Group, the Glasgow engineer, are on the mend after the plunge in profits last year to just £142,000 after exceptional items. Interim pretax profits recovered to £3.4 million and full-year profits should exceed £10 million.



The main problem last year was caused by sub-contracting the design and manufacture of the blades on wind turbine generators at the Californian wind park. The wind park is being recommissioned and Howden is confident it will be operating in time for the main wind season starting in April.

Howden Compressors has also been slimmed down and is concentrating on selling the products it knows best. Reduced manning and closures of lossmaking or marginal activities should boost profits by £1.5 million to £2 million this year.

The savings are more than enough to offset higher interest costs, which rose to £773,000 against £94,000 in the previous first half. Borrowings have increased to finance loss of revenue from the wind park and will lead to end-year gearing of more than 40 per cent against just 17 per cent at the last year-end. With a return to cash generation next year, gearing should start to fall again.

Howden is winning more orders. The Channel Tunnel's £30 million worth of orders has helped and Howden Airdynamics did well with defence orders. Power station activity finally looks as though it is picking up and Howden should be tendering for coal-fired power station orders later this year.

Mr Clive Thomson of Parsons, the stockbroker, has raised his forecast of pretax profits this year to £10.3 million against a previous forecast of £9.5 million. The prospective p/e ratio is 9 and the yield, assuming a maintained dividend, is 6 per cent.

The shares were 3p higher yesterday at 89p. Given the improving order outlook, the shares look good value for the longer term.

TGI

As befits a company famous for its loudspeakers, TGI is extremely careful about the noise it makes. Its arrival on the stock market next Thursday will attract its share of publicity, but the excitement of obtaining a listing, not to mention raising £6.5 million, is not hustling chief executive Terry Bennett into any promises he cannot keep or decisions that carry the merest hint of adventure.

One upshot is that the group has spurned the chance to become the first offer for sale since Black Monday, although this would have been the avenue preferred had it come to market last spring as was considered. With 6.54 million shares on offer, it was certainly big enough, while in Tannoy, Goodmans and Mordaunt-Short it had the brand names to ensure wide appeal.

Another consequence of the market crash is that TGI has had to sell more shares to raise the cash it needs to tidy up its capital structure and finance Goodmans' expansion. If Comet takes the rest of its profit when it can in 12 months' time, some 47 per cent of equity will be outside the boardroom, which should guarantee a good market.

The 10.3 p/e ratio suggested by the £2.4 million profit forecast for the current year at the 130p placing price looks both conservative and generous. If the shares fail to take off on Thursday, they are worth another look.

Going places

Cash rich and growing fast, Parkfield Group is one of the more exciting smaller distribution and engineering companies.

Distribution, comprising 70 per cent of turnover, grew by 50 per cent in the first half, on sales of £59 million. This should rise to about £150 million for the full year due to the seasonality of the business.

Both central heating and industrial lighting and heating are winter industries, and even entertainment is concentrated in the second half, not only because of the Christmas peak but the long nights mean winter sales of records and videos are three times the summer level.

Since the acquisition of the aluminium founder Eurocast, the horizons of the manufacturing side of the business have expanded. The group has spent £5 million doubling its capacity for producing alloy wheels to 20,000 a week. It is also expected shortly to announce its first European factory capable of producing 12,000 wheels a week. Plans to tackle the US market are well advanced.

As an interesting aside for car enthusiasts, Eurocast owns Wolfrace, the originator of the idea of putting smart alloy wheels on cars. The trade name has been underexploited and Parkfield is considering giving it a higher profile.

All this development has made Parkfield greedy for cash. It has spent £5 million on the new allow wheel factory and injected nearly £9 million of working capital into its distribution business.

However, some of this will be recouped from cash flows and net cash at the year-end should be about £20 million.

The group is on course to make £15 million in the full year. Given the anticipated growth rate, the 14 times prospective multiple does not seem excessive.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Jan	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Allid Lyon.. (*329)	300	30	48	55	1½	13	23
	330	9	30	40	10	27	37
	360	3	18	28	35	45	53
Bass (*792)	750	50	90	117	4	30	50
	800	17	63	92	20	58	75
	850	4	43	70	60	85	103
Brit Air (*161)	140	22	30	36	2	9	14
	160	6	18	24	5	16	21
	180	1	10	16	22	28	36
Brit Com (*334)	280	60	75	90	2	11	17
	300	38	55	75	3	15	22
	330	10	37	57	12	27	35
Brit Gas (*134)	120	15	21	26	½	4	7½
	130	7	15	20	2	9	14
	140	—	10	15	—	15	20
BP (*252)	220	33	40	48	1	9	13
	240	14	25	37	2	20	25
	260	2½	16	28	12	30	34
Britoil (*459)	390	70	82	92	1	7	15
	420	43	58	68	4	13	25
	460	15	30	45	14	33	35
Cons Gold (*865)	800	65	85	140	43	110	140
	950	7	70	120	85	150	175
	1000	3	50	100	130	180	210
Courtaild (*336)	300	40	58	67	2	14	24
	330	15	38	48	6	25	38
	360	4	26	37	28	43	58
Com Union (*338)	330	13	37	50	7	32	37
	360	2	22	37	25	50	53
	390	1	15	27	55	72	75
C & W (*354)	280	75	88	95	1	5	12
	300	55	70	78	1½	11	20
	330	27	49	62	2½	18	30
	360	8	31	48	15	32	43
GEC (*157)	160	20	28	31	1	8	9
	180	4	14	22	6	15	20
	180	1	8	15	24	28	32
GKN (*305)	280	28	47	58	2	20	26
	300	13	35	48	6	29	35
	330	4	21	36	26	46	51
Grand Met (*439)	360	1½	13	26	55	67	70
	390	1	52	63	78	115	115
	420	25	45	60	7	25	35
	460	5	26	43	25	48	55
	500	2	15	30	63	75	80
ICI (*1117)	1050	77	118	156	7	57	80
	1100	38	88	132	22	80	103
	1150	12	67	110	50	110	130
	1200	4	48	92	88	142	158
Jaguar (*318)	300	22	43	52	3	23	28
	330	4	28	40	16	38	48
Land Sec (*460)	360	1	18	28	43	63	67
	400	2	27	38	42	55	73
	460	17	42	55	11	30	47
M & S (*179)	160	20	32	36	1½	8	12
	180	5	18	24	8	20	24
	200	1	8	15	24	32	32
R-Royce (*129)	120	11	19	27	2	11	17
	130	5	15	21	5	16	23
	140	2	10	17	12	21	29
	160	1	5	—	32	37	—
Sainsbury (*229)	200	30	40	47	1	6	12
	220	12	27	36	4	13	21
	240	2	16	26	15	24	32
Shell (*1005)	1000	30	80	105	25	65	95
	1050	13	55	85	55	115	125
	1100	5	38	65	105	150	155
Stanshaw (*250)	220	33	48	58	1	8	17
	240	15	35	47	3	14	23
	260	4	27	37	12	23	33
Trafalgar (*323)	280	2	20	27	32	43	47
	300	45	55	63	1	10	17
	330	27	40	50	4	20	27
TSB (*116)	100	17	20	24	1½	5	6
	110	9	12	18	3	9	16
	120	2	9	13	8	13	17
Woolworth (*257)	240	20	37	47	3	18	25
	260	8	27	37	12	28	32
	280	3	20	30	36	45	45
	300	1	11	18	50	60	70

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Glaxo (*995)	950	108	150	195	47	80	100
	1000	83	125	170	75	100	130
	1050	57	105	145	98	125	160
	1100	44	83	—	135	160	—
Hanson (*135)	110	29	33	—	1½	3½	—
	120	21	26	32	3	7	10
	130	14	20	25	9½	11	13
	140	8½	14	20	11½	16	18
Hawker (*447)	420	50	63	80	18	30	43
	460	32	47	63	38	57	67
	500	18	32	47	65	82	92
Lonrho (*254)	200	58	65	—	3	6	—
	220	41	48	55	7	13	19
	240	28	37	43	16	24	30
	260	17	27	34	27	34	41
Midland (*380)	330	67	75	—	8	18	—
	360	47	57	67	22	32	42
	390	27	40	52	37	50	57
Sears (*132)	120	19	24	29	5	9	12
	130	12	19	23	9	14	19
	140	8	14	19	19	24	30
Tesco (*153)	140	24	27	32	7	11	16
	160	13	19	24	17	25	28
	180	—	10	16	—	36	40
Thorn EMI (*565)	460	115	133	—	4	10	—
	500	85	107	125	15	25	32
	550	55	75	85	38	48	55
	600	25	48	62	50	55	78
THF (*215)	200	23	35	43	13	18	22
	220	14	24	33	30	30	33
	240	9	17	25	35	43	45
Unilever (*482)	460	52	70	90	28	45	55
	500	32	52	70	50	70	77
	550	15	33	52	88	100	110
Wellcome (*385)	360	50	70	82	22	35	43
	390	35	55	73	37	50	58
	420	24	45	63	55	65	78

	Series	Feb	May	Aug	Feb	May	Aug
BAA (*94)	90	11	18	20	5	12	17
	100	5	13	16	11	17	21
	110	3	9	12	21	24	28
Brit Aero (*348)	300	57	65	75	6	20	25
	330	33	47	58	15	32	42
	360	19	32	43	27	50	58
BAT Ind (*437)	390	57	68	80	7	22	28
	420	35	50	60	15	35	42
	450	15	32	47	37	55	62
Brit Tele (*226)	500	7	22	—	67	82	—
	200	30	38	42	3½	8	10
	220	17	25	28	8	13	18
Cadbury (*254)	240	7	14	20	19	23	28
	220	39	44	55	3	10	15
	240	24	31	42	9	18	23
Guinness (*302)	280	12	20	30	20	28	33
	280	30	40	48	8	20	25
	300	17	30	38	17	28	35
Ladbroke (*348)	330	5	18	—	37	48	—
	300	55	67	73	5	15	20
	330	30	47	55	11	25	32
	360	15	30	40	25	40	47
LASMO (*296)	260	52	63	75	12	28	37
	280	40	50	60	18	38	48
	300	30	42	50	30	48	60
Pilkington (*239)	200	45	55	62	3	10	15
	220	28	43	50	8	17	25
	240	16	32	40	18	28	37
Plessey (*154)	260	12	23	33	30	40	48
	140	21	29	35	7	11	15
	160	10	19	26	15	22	25
P & O (*531)	180	5½	11	17	33	37	41
	460	77	90	100	5	20	27
	500	45	60	75	18	37	47
Prudential (*827)	550	15	35	55	45	65	80
	800	58	78	98	30	50	58
	850	33	55	73	52	80	85
Racal (*215)	900	15	35	—	90	110	—
	200	38	50	58	3	7	15
	220	26	38	45	9	16	23
RTZ (*375)	240	14	28	35	17	27	34
	300	80	100	120	6	20	27
	330	55	80	100	10	27	43
Tesco (*153)	360	33	60	80	18	45	65
	380	18	45	—	35	60	—
Vaal Reef (*108)	100	15	23	32	9	16	19
	110	9	17	25	18	24	30
	120	6	13	20	24	33	37
Tr 11½% 1997 (*£106)	104	1¼	—	—	¹⁄₁₆	—	—
	106	⁹⁄₁₆	—	—	2⅜	—	—
	108	⅞	—	—	4⅛	—	—
Tr 11½% 03/07 (*£114)	112	3¼	4⅞	—	⁹⁄₁₆	2⅛	—
	114	1⅛	3¼	—	1⅞	3¼	—
	116	1⅛	2¼	—	2¾	4⅜	—
	118	⅝	1⅝	—	4⅛	5¼	—
	120	⅜	1⅛	—	6⅛	6⅝	—

FT-SE INDEX (*1742)

Series	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
1650	196	215	233	—	9	30	45	—
1600	152	177	202	220	15	40	60	75
1650	108	140	165	180	29	55	77	92
1700	75	109	137	160	53	75	100	113
1750	46	80	112	140	86	100	128	139
1800	26	62	90	115	95	130	155	167
1850	13	44	73	95	133	162	185	199
1900	5	31	53	70	178	205	223	230

January 14, 1988 Total: 29320 Calls 19080 Puts 10230 FT-SE: Calls 1243 Puts 1414
*Underlying security price.

ALPHA STOCKS

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey	892	Coats	909	Land Sec	1,665	Rowntree	n/a
Abd-Lyons	1,636	CU	627	Laporte	81	Royal Bank	1,318
Amstrad	815	Cons Gold	102	L&G	1,353	Royal Ins	1,146
ASDA	1,439	Cookson	279	Lloyds	1,132	Saatchi	n/a
AB Foods	401	Courtaulds	619	Lonrho	994	Sainsbury	1,576
Argyll	2,374	Dalgety	279	Lucas	1,412	Scot & N	1,678
BAA	258	Dee	13,405	Magnet	82	Sears	4,059
BET	1,586	Dixons	1,873	M&S	3,353	Sedgwick	1,641
BTR	1,572	ECC	597	Maxwell Cm	656	Shell	945
BAT	1,883	Enterprise	1,041	MEPC	776	Smith & N	851
Barclays	1,201	Ferranti	1,889	Metal Box	937	STC	2,667
Bass	18	Fisons	1,590	Midland	2,395	Stan Chart	170
Beecham	842	Gen Acc	145	NatWest	1,116	Storehse	2,126
Beazer	1,055	GEC	4,350	Next	1,382	Sun Alnce	327
BICC	38	Glaxo	1,158	Nth Food	315	T & N	752
Blue Arrow	723	Globe	470	P&O	662	Tarmac	2,575
Blue Circle	2,726	Granada	2,085	Pearl	195	Tate & Lyle	564
BOC	1,064	Grand Met	1,244	Pearson	1,607	TSB	1,254
Boots	3,445	GUS 'A'	101	Pilkington	6,553	Tesco	3,317
BPB	168	GRE	128	Plessey	1,919	Thorn EMI	408
Br Aero	1,395	GKN	418	Prudential	116	Trafalgar	1,706
Br Airways	1,300	Guinness	1,233	Racal	3,084	THF	707
Br Comm	564	Hamm 'A'	15	Rk Hovis	1,893	Ultramar	3,421
Br Gas	3,812	Hanson	n/a	Rank	106	Unigate	1,789
Br Petrol	4,218	Hawker	634	R&C	153	Unilever	1,068
Br Telecm	2,383	Hawley	480	Redland	988	United Bis	680
Britoil	4,675	Hillsdown	835	Reed	1,527	Utd News	390
Bunzl	3,940	IMI	1,727	Reuters	1,045	Wellcome	2,113
Burmah	402	ICI	1,904	RMC Gp	1,023	Whitbrd	1,074
Burton	1,874	Jaguar	904	RTZ	3,668	Willis Fab	75
C&W	2,491	Lasmo	1,292	R-Royce	843	Woolworth	496
Cadbury	655	Ladbroke	435	Rothmn 'B'	710	Equities page 23	

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Ald Restaurants	60
Britt Pet P/P	72½
Butte Mining (100p)	145 +10
City Grove(100p)	109 +2
Eurotunnel	240 +1
Eurotunnel Wrnts	14½
Fairway London	75 +2
Gaelic Res	5 +½
Hard Rock Cafe	98 +4
Do 'A'	67
Hatfield Est (100p)	110 +1
How Group	70
ISA Intl (80p)	100 +2
Intl Colour	98
Lloyd Thomp (170p)	153 +3
Mayne Nickless	176 +2
Mowat	34 –1
Nestor-BNA (75p)	83
Power Corp	92
Record (88p)	60
Sec Archives	158 –2
Shaftsbury (180p)	131 +3
Shorco	107
Sykes-Pickavant	120 –1
Tomorrows Leisure	30
Tubular Exhib	22
URS

Former HK exchange chief to appear on bribery charge

From Stephen Leather, Hong Kong

Mr Ronald Li, former chairman of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, was yesterday charged under the Crown colony's bribery laws. He will appear in court today.

Mr Li was called to the headquarters of the Independent Commission Against Corruption early yesterday afternoon and charged under section 9 of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance which involves accepting, soliciting or offering illegal advantages in relation to one's principal business.

The offence carries a maximum penalty of seven years' imprisonment and a HK$500,000 (£35,700) fine.

Mr Li has been on bail of $10 million since January 2, when he was arrested along with Mr Jeffrey Sun, the exchange's chief executive, and Mr Donald Tsang, listings manager. All three surrendered their passports to the ICAC and were released on a combined bail of HK$14 million.

Yesterday, an ICAC spokesman said inquiries into the activities of Mr Sun and Mr Tsang were continuing.

Both men said they planned to emigrate to Canada before they were arrested in dawn raids masterminded by the Crown colony's anti-corruption watchdogs.

Full details of the charge will be revealed when Mr Li appears in Central Magistrate's Court this morning.

He was charged under subsection 1(b), which says in part: "Any agent who, without lawful authority or reasonable excuse solicits or accepts any advantage as an inducement to or reward for . . . favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's affairs or business shall be guilty of an offence."

The ICAC announcement came after the exchange had closed for business yesterday, with the Hang Seng index closing at 2,411.52, up 27.73.

Mr Li stepped down as chairman of the stock exchange on December 16 after completing his two-year term of office.

The exchange is now being run by Mr Robert Fell, the Crown colony's former commissioner of banking, with a new management committee.

The recently-elected chairman of the exchange, Mr Charles Sin, has been excluded from the new committee along with other members who were asked by Mr Fell to "distance themselves" from day-to-day administration during the course of the ICAC investigation.

Courts rises sharply to £3.7m

By Joe Joseph

Courts (Furnishers), the furniture retailer, has managed a sharp rise in interim profits despite the strength of sterling, which dented its foreign earnings, last year's coup in Fiji, which hurt its sales there badly, and a large deferral of profits.

It says these factors are likely to hold back the growth in profits for the second half of the year as well.

Pretax profits rose from £2.5 million to £3.7 million in the six months to September 26, even though £913,000 was transferred to a deferred profits reserve compared with only £181,000 in the previous year.

Overall profits would have been £814,000 better had the previous year's exchange rates still prevailed, Courts says.

The jump in deferred profits arose mainly from the company's trading in Jamaica and Mauritius. Although business in both countries has been good, much of it is based on hire purchase sales, on which Courts defers the instalments payable and the profits.

Turnover grew 14 per cent to £52.7 million, a figure lightened by the closure of loss-making Australian operations.

But the company is still expanding at home and abroad, even though it is shutting down uneconomic high street branches. No more of its Mammoth Superstores will open this financial year, but seven new outlets will be added next year to the 13 in business. Courts also recently opened seven new branches overseas, including one each in Malaysia and Grenada

IN BRIEF

Profits of £3.4m at CAP

CAP Group, the information systems contractor which provides custom-built computer software systems, made pretax profits in the half year to the end of November of £3.4 million against £2.1 million.

The company said that prospects were good across all its markets, despite volatility in the world's financial markets. Demand should continue to grow strongly, provided there is no deterioration in conditions. The interim dividend was raised to 0.72p from 0.6p.

SIB guidance to newspapers

The Securities and Investments Board, the new City watchdog, has published guidance on the certification process for newspapers under the Financial Services Act. The Act exempts newspapers from the requirement of authorization — if their principal purpose is not to give investment advice.

Steel output up by 7.9%

Steel production overall in Britain was running 7.9 per cent higher in December compared with the same month the previous year, bringing total output for 1987 to 17.4 million tonnes.

Expamet buys

Expamet International has conditionally agreed to buy two private companies operating in the security components sector for a maximum of £5.6 million.



Terry Bennett: launching new success sounds with SE debut (Photograph: Mark Pepper)

TGI share sale raises £6.5m

TGI, the company that makes Tannoy public address systems and Goodmans hi-fi speakers yesterday raised £6.5 million through a share sale, and looked forward to first-ever Stock Exchange dealings in the shares next Thursday.

About 5.38 million new shares in TGI, the non-descript name embracing Tannoy, Goodmans and Mordaunt-Short, the quality speaker manufacturer, were placed, mainly with clients of the sponsoring stockbroker, Albert E Sharp, at 130p apiece.

At the same time, the board and Comet Group, the biggest single shareholder, sold shares, lifting the total placed with new investors at 6.54 million, representing 39.3 per cent of the capital.

TGI, formed in 1986 when Tannoy and Goodmans merged and now a leading British presence in the fragmented world loudspeaker market, is valued at £21.6 million.

Piloted by Mr Terry Bennett, the chief executive, TGI made profits of £1.33 million in the year ended last March,

Tempus 20

and a further £1.05 million in the following six months to end-September.

Both Tannoy and Goodmans were management buy-outs in the early 1980s and entered the merger with complex capital structures. Most of the new money will go on repaying preference capital and cleaning up the balance sheet.

The rest has been earmarked for buying more capacity for Goodmans, which cannot make enough speakers for its big customers such as Ford Europe, Peugeot-Talbot, whose UK 405 Car of the Year model has installed its speakers, and, now, General Motors.

The board predicts a profit for the current year of not less than £2.4 million. The prospective p/e ratio is 10.3, and the projected yield 5 per cent.

Following the share sale Mr Bennett will own 8.3 per cent of the equity, Comet will still have 7.5 per cent and SUMIT, the investment trust, 7.2 per cent.

Waverley backs Gulliver

Waverley Cameron, the stationery company, has rejected capital injection proposals from its principal shareholder, Flavell Communications. They were turned down even though they offered the company more money than rival proposals which it is backing from Mr James Gulliver, the chairman of Argyll.

Sanda Investments, of which Mr Gulliver owns 80 per cent, intends to take its stake in Waverley up to 64 per cent by injecting £1.65 million in return for new shares at 120p each.

Flavell has offered to inject £3.8 million via a rights issue of new shares at £2.70p.

US buy helps Astra to £2.6m

By Alison Eadie

Astra Holdings — the pyrotechnics and ammunition company that came to the stock market 17 months ago through a reverse takeover of Francis Sumner, the ailing textile company — made pretax profits in the half year to the end of September of £2.6 million, against just £129,000 in the previous first half. Turnover reached £20.5 million against £3.4 million.

An interim dividend of 0.35p was recommended.

The jump in profits and turnover was largely due to the acquisition last spring of the Walters Group, the American precision engineer and defence contractor. Walters made a four-month contribution, with two months pre-acquisition profits of £417,000 excluded from the results.

Mr Gerald James, the chairman, said the present order book was £60 million compared with a pro forma turnover last year (including Walters) of just over £30 million. He said Astra had had discussions with the Ministry of Defence and understood it would be allowed to tender for any MoD ammunition requirements.

"This means we will become the only real competitor to Royal Ordnance in the ammunition field within the UK."

Since the end of the first half, Astra has made two significant moves. In October it bought the Kilgore Corporation, a leading American supplier of infra-red decoy systems, and in November it signed a manufacturing agreement with the Oerlikon Buehrle subsidiary BMARC, which makes cannon and explosives.

Astra expects to exercise its option to acquire BMARC for about £35 million before the end of April. It is tendering for MoD contracts, including a large Navy contract, but does not expect they will make any contribution to profit until the next financial year.

COMMENT

Will a white knight appear for Dee?

Barker & Dobson's flexible friend, Citicorp, will be wondering if somebody has got their sums wrong and if so whether it is B&D or Dee Corporation. Dee is on the wrong end of a High Court writ for libel following its letter about the financing of the bid, but the action refers to the words, not the numbers. These B&D still has to refute, with numbers of its own, if the suspicion that it will be in hock to a greater extent than it currently realises is to go away.

Dee believes it has prised open a crack in B&D's case and that opinion will be strengthened, rather than weakened, by the sweetmaker's resort to the law. If Dee's numbers are right, then they do a great deal to back up its words. If they are wrong, it would be more sense to show where they are wrong than to follow a legal path that ends nowhere and will do nothing whatever to curb Dee's tongue.

Meanwhile, the talk is turning towards the idea of a white knight, a concept which is no more welcome to Dee at this moment than are B&D's ambitions. Two contenders turned themselves down yesterday, ASDA and Associates British Foods. The ABF idea is, however, one which deserves closer, if merely academic, study. Dee maintains that the financial health of the enlarged B&D is of fundamental importance to Dee shareholders who would, after all, control 85 per cent of the enlarged group should the bid be successful. What a clever idea it would be, then, for John Fletcher, chairman of B&D, to pop along to see Garry Weston, the chairman of Associated British Foods. He could suggest that ABF uses its 15 per cent stake in Dee as a launchpad for a bid of its own, in order to carry out a gigantic asset strip.

ABF would not need Citicorp's platinum-plated Access card and could sell little B&D the Gateway supermarkets it is so keen to acquire, in return for B&D shares. The superstores could be disposed of to the queue of buyers already lining up at B&D's door while Herman's Sporting Goods could be turned over to Citicorp's corporate finance people to find the best buyer.

Mr Weston might need some persuading that, having sold out of food retailing in 1986 he should bid his way back in in 1988, but Mr Fletcher could always point out that by structuring a deal that way he would avoid having to crystallise the book loss his Dee shares are currently commanding.

The idea is unlikely to commend itself either to Mr Fletcher or Mr Weston and would not be very welcome to Mr Alec Monk, the chairman of Dee. But at least until B&D answers some genuine questions about the financing and Dee says something about current trading, it gives the market something to rumour about.

Lawson's letter to America

Concerted intervention in foreign exchange markets can be useful in reinforcing currency movements that are soundly based on fundamentals. Witness the enjoyable bear squeeze on short sellers of the dollar in the first few days of this year. But by itself it is no substitute for policy. That was the gist of Nigel Lawson's message to the Americans from the Despatch Box yesterday.

The message is well made, but it is difficult to see US policymakers responding to it in the immediate future. The US budget deficit remains much too high, as the Chancellor pointed out, even after the agreement between the Administration and Congress to rein it in. It may not be particularly high in relation to the size of the US economy but it is huge compared with the size of US savings available to finance it. However, in practice there is no chance whatever of further cuts in the deficit for the time being.

Marginally more likely is a rise in the US discount rate. But yesterday, market operators were inclined to interpret the recent well-signposted intervention in the foreign exchange market by the New York Federal Reserve Board as designed precisely to avoid any need to raise interest rates. The last thing the Administration wants in election year is any increase in interest rates while there is a suspicion that the economy is slowing down after the stock market crash. Mr Lawson's advice that the US economy would have to grow more slowly than Japan's for a while can hardly have sounded harmonious.

There will, however, have to be a rise in US interest rates at some stage. But for the time being the central banks will rely on threats. That was the reasoning behind Wednesday's US-Japanese agreement on swapping Special Drawing Rights for yen. As Steven Bell of Morgan Grenfell put it: "It reminds me of the May Day Parade — the authorities are showing the weapons." What matters, however, is their willingness to use them, and in the longer term to work for an economically more stable world.

There are several ways in which the agreement differs from the dollar support package of November 1978, which marked the bottom of that downswing in the dollar. There are no Carter bonds, there is no rise in the discount rate and the trade deficit, which that year was $37 billion, is now more than $150 billion. Much depends in the short term on today's trade figures for November. Better figures will help to reassure that the fundamentals and not just the tactics are working in the right direction.

'Mr USM' vows to come back

The resignation of Brian Winterflood, one of the best-known names at County NatWest, at 5.30pm on Wednesday, was preceded, just half an hour earlier, by the equally surprising departure of Stephen Raven, a former star of Warburg Securities, poached by County barely nine months ago. Raven, who had been managing director of County's equities division, is also an influential member of a number of Stock Exchange committees. Until recently chairman of its International Markets Committee, he is currently deputy chairman of its new Foreign Equity Market Committee, deputy chairman of its Domestic Equity Committee and a member of both its Membership and Quality of Markets committees. Further County NatWest redundancies are expected any day. "It's all very sad," said Winterflood from his Wimbledon home. Known as "Mr USM" after he pioneered jobbing in USM stocks when that market was launched in 1980, Winterflood, aged 50, has been in the City for more than 30 years, most of that time at jobbing firm Bisgood Bishop where he became joint managing director. Bisgood has since been absorbed by County. But contrary to City rumour, Winterflood will not be retiring. Taken ill recently, he is now fully recovered although he plans a "second honeymoon" with his wife Doreen later this month. "How can I retire at 50?" he asks. "I'll be back, and doing the only thing I know how." Given the legendary loyalty of Winterflood's staff we could see a number of voluntary resignations before too long . . .

● Even the French are at it now . . . Ark Securities, the specialist European equities firm, 75 per cent owned by the Banque Nationale Paris, is shedding five of its team, three from its fund management operations and two from its Far East division. Ark will now concentrate on Europe.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Caviare index rises

Could sales of caviare be the new financial barometer we've all been looking for? According to Arnold Hansen-Sturm, president of a New Jersey-based caviare importer, sales have been booming in the US, despite the stock market crash. He reports that sales of Russian caviare — which represents 80 per cent of the American quality caviare market — are up by 23 per cent and rising. "Big-ticket items may be suffering," he says, "but people are going to take care of their stomachs." The most intriguing aspect is, however, the sense of *déjà vu* the Hansen-Sturm family is experiencing at the moment. "Right after the 1929 crash the comment from my father, who is now 84, was that the caviare business was very brisk," Arnold says.

Piped aboard

Merrill Lynch and Shearson Lehman should look to their rear. While they are still looking to prune their London workforces, a rival US firm, Minneapolis-based Piper Jaffray — the third largest regional broker in America — this week opened its first London office, in Eastcheap, to service its British and European clients. Clearly aware that it is an unusual move given the current climate within the Square Mile, chief executive Addison Piper, in town for the opening celebration, tells me: "It's very pleasing to be extending our operations into Europe at a time when other major US brokerage houses appear to be rationalizing."



"They must have imported another one."

Horton's certain aim

"The average human being can cope with just about anything, except uncertainty." So says Bob Horton, who should perhaps be showing the heads of Britain's securities houses how to manage their staff instead of being deputy chairman-elect of BP.

Horton, an Englishman currently based in Cleveland, Ohio, where he has been running Standard Oil, is due to return to London in April to assume the head office post. His sights are, it seems, clearly set on becoming chairman. "There is nothing quite so nice as being chairman of a board," he once said. Underlings at BP's London office had better be on their toes.

Horton, aged 48, speed-reads and is famed in Cleveland for his cost-cutting exercises at Standard. When he arrived at Standard two years ago he apparently slashed the budget for the party to celebrate the opening of its new headquarters, sold off more than 20 companies, laid off hundreds of employees and drastically reduced donations to charities and community organizations.

His tough guy approach has nevertheless won over the hearts of the local community. "I'm going to miss him," says the local mayor George Voinovich.

● Who says Polly Peck isn't popular? More than 600 shareholders crowded into London's Marriott Hotel yesterday for its annual meeting — more than ever before.

Carol Leonard

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A Different Kind Of
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Who Need
No Introduction

The company: Businessland. The largest wholly-owned microcomputer dealer operation in the world.

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£2.68m profit beats forecast at Neotronics

By Geoffrey Foster

Neotronics Technology, the gas leak detection equipment manufacturer of Bishop's Stortford, Herts, which was founded by Mr Paul Gotley, the chairman and chief executive, exceeded its prospectus forecast in both turnover and profit when it revealed preliminary results for the year to September 30 yesterday.

Pretax profits more than doubled, from £1.2 million to £2.68 million, on turnover up from £7.5 million to £10.3 million. A final dividend of 1.2p is to be paid.

The group's shares — 6 million of which were brought to the main market last June via a placing of 25 per cent of the equity at 130p each by Hoare Govett, the broker — celebrated the news with a rise of 5p to 138p. Before the October crash, they had been as high as 216p.

Since its flotation, the group has formed a West German subsidiary which is already contributing to group sales and two important new product ranges have been launched.

The chairman believes that opportunities for growth, both in turnover and profits, continue to look excellent. The worldwide trend for the creation and implementation of legislation relevant to the company's activities continued and has even accelerated in some areas. The additional resources now available to the company as a result of the flotation will enable it to increase its share of an expanding market.

Neotronics' commitment to research and development continues and has grown by nearly 30 per cent above the 1986 level. It is still essential to ensure the company's continued growth.

Nearly 70 per cent of sales are overseas, through distributors and the company's own marketing subsidiaries in the US and France and, from last October, West Germany. It is expected that the level of exports will increase.

Movements in the US dollar are being monitored. In 1986-87, the company repaid borrowings in dollars from its dollar flow to Britain, so the decline in the US currency during the final six months of last year had little impact on the results. In the current year, the company has sold forward most of its expected flow of dollars.

Group companies are due to launch five important new product ranges in the current year and the company's position in the European market will be considerably strengthened by the newly created marketing subsidiary in West Germany, while its distribution network throughout the world continues to be developed.

Stead & Simpson up on shoe sales

By Our City Staff

Higher shoe sales, despite an uninspiring market last summer, and good returns from its motor dealerships helped Stead & Simpson to lift taxable profits from £2.50 million to £2.85 million for the half year to September 30.

The company — in which Tozer Kemsley & Millbourn, the motor trading group controlled by Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, recently bought a 29.14 per cent stake from Ward White Group — said profits from shoe sales rose by 11.7 per cent. This was despite what it described as "one of the worst summer trading periods in recent years."

It added that a 15.8 per cent jump in third-quarter turnover for the footwear division, the lion's share of the company's business, bode well for the full year's results.

Motor trading profits improved by 17.2 per cent on the back of a 9.4 per cent rise in turnover.

Stead & Simpson's overall turnover grew from £34.89 million to £38.55 million. Earnings per share rose from 2.73p to 3.20p.

The interim dividend is up from 1.20p to 1.40p and the company is promising shareholders a final payment at least as good as the 2.70p paid last year.

Two charged with Lloyd's fraud plan

Miami (AP-Dow Jones) — A five-year investigation by American and Canadian authorities has led to the indictment of two men on charges of trying to defraud Lloyd's of London, the insurance market, of $9.9 million (£5.4 million) with a theft insurance claim, a US prosecutor said yesterday.

The federal indictment issued earlier this week charged Sandy Credin, who is in a Florida jail at present on a related state conviction, with conspiracy and several counts of wire and mail fraud, according to Mr Leon Kellner, a federal prosecutor.

The indictment alleges that Credin, owner of the companies Golden Door Jewelry Creations Inc and Suisse Gold Assayer, stole from two bullion suppliers to pay for large gambling losses.

Credin, also known as Shaul Credinciosu, solicited Mr Pierre Sarasin of Montreal to stage a robbery when he was faced with the prospect of a gold inventory by the bullion suppliers' security firm, the indictment charged.

Mr Sarasin, who is believed to have fled the country, was accused of hiring another person for the break-in on February 10, 1983.

The staged robbery served as the basis for Credin's fraudulent insurance claim to Lloyd's of London for $9.9 million.

Mr Sarasin has been charged with conspiracy, according to the indictment charges.

APPOINTMENTS

Deputy chief for Saatchi & Saatchi

Saatchi & Saatchi: Mr Simon Mellor has been made deputy chief executive.

Higgs and Hill Management Contracting: Mr Nigel Freeborn has joined the board.

Peters Office Machines: Mr John Eden has been named service director, with **Mr Mark Peters** as sales director.

Institute of Marketing: Mr Chesney Richmond has become chairman.

Guildway and Guildway Construction: Mr David Beety has been made chairman.

Efamol Holdings: Dr William Duncan has been named a non-executive director.

Yamaichi International (Europe): Mr Tony Furlong has been made director of pensions and marketing.

Associated British Ports Holdings: Lord Crickhowell has joined the board.

Merchant Navy Investment Management: Mr Clive Gilchrist has been made development director.

Clark Whitehill Associates: Mr Charles Sutcliffe has been named deputy technical director.

Inco: Mr Michel Belanger has been elected to the board.

Williams Lea & Co: Viscount Tenby has been made a non-executive director.

Carters Packaging: Mr Tom Porritt hasbecome managing director.

Robert Walters Associates: Mr Keith Allen has been appointed a director of Robert Walters (International) and **Mr James Hyde** a director of Robert Walters (Executive).

Eagle Star: Mr Michael Butt has become chairman, succeeding Sir Jasper Hollom.

Rank Xerox (UK): Mr Peter Blackmore has been made marketing director.

Abrasive Developments: Mr John Penny has been named as business development director.

Tarmac: Mr Neville Simms has been made chief executive of the construction division, succeeding Mr Alan Osborne.

Cambridge Electronic Industries: Mr Trevor Thrower has become divisional managing director.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	8.50%
Adam & Company	8.50%
BCCI	8.50%
Consolidated Crds	8.50%
Co-operative Bank	8.50%
C. Hoare & Co	8.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	8.50%
Lloyds Bank	8.50%
Nat Westminster	8.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	8.50%
TSB	8.50%
Citibank NA	8.50%

Hong Kong banks unveil new charges to deter speculators

From Stephen Leather
Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Association of Banks yesterday revealed plans to charge interest on credit balances held in Hong Kong dollars.

The association hopes the new charges, which can be imposed any time after March 10, will deter currency speculators who have been pouring money into the Crown Colony's banking system in the hope that the Hong Kong dollar will be revalued.

The Hong Kong dollar is linked to the US currency at the rate of HK$7.80 to US$1 and the government has consistently denied that the peg will be altered.

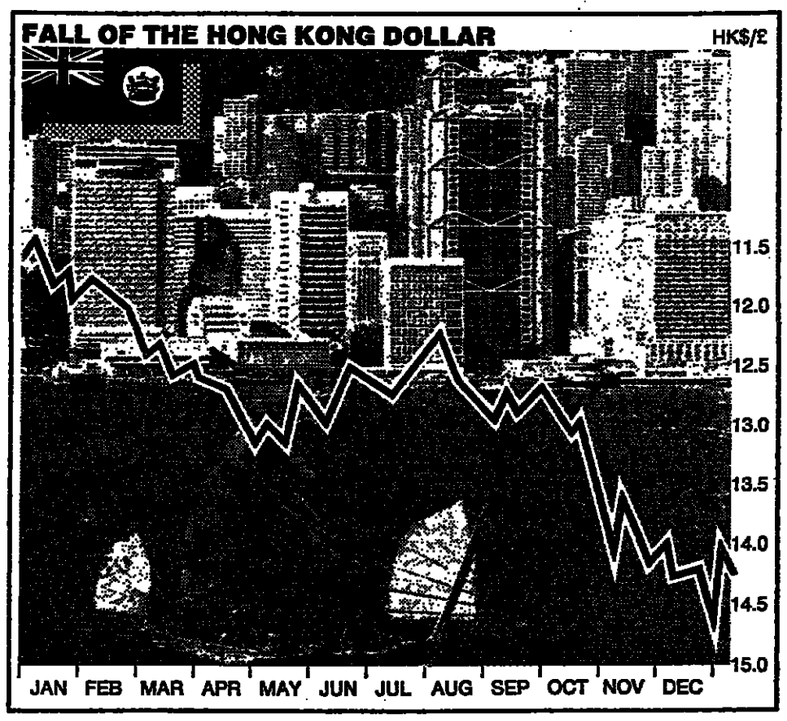
That has not deterred speculation, despite interest rates being cut four times in the past three months. Hong Kong's prime rate is now 5.25 per cent.

From March 10, banks, after consultation with the financial secretary, will be able to impose charges on current and savings accounts holding more than HK$1 million (£71,428), and will refuse to accept new Hong Kong dollar time deposits of less than three months, the association said.

Time deposits of more than three months will escape the charges. Under the new system, the banks are to charge a "specified rate" on overnight credit balances which pass through the territory's central clearing system. The Crown Colony's six clearing banks will charge the rate to member banks, which will then pass on the charges to their customers.

The association said the new measures "will remain in effect for as long as the committee considers necessary to deter excessive speculation on the revaluation of the Hong Kong dollar."

The charges will not affect deposits of foreign currency and the association recommended investors with more than HK$1 million in the bank to switch to other currencies.



Meanwhile, the Hong Kong government is making huge profits on the currency market as the Hong Kong dollar continues to plunge along with the US currency. The government has billions of dollars from its exchange fund invested in currencies such as yen, marks, sterling and Swiss francs, and all are appreciating against the Hong Kong dollar.

Mr David Nendick, the secretary for monetary affairs, refused to reveal how much the government had invested in foreign currencies, but he did admit that "it's a windfall."

He added: "The size of the windfall will depend on the proportion in the US dollar and in other currencies. We have a large diversified portfolio."

The Hong Kong dollar has been linked to the US dollar since October 1983 and as the US dollar plummets, the territory's goods become increasingly competitive on the world market. The US, therefore, has been putting pressure on Hong Kong to revalue its currency.

While the Hong Kong government has consistently said the link is here to stay, it has been quick to profit from its falling currency.

The main use of the exchange fund is to maintain the peg rate by buying or selling Hong Kong dollars, although it has been used to rescue ailing banks and contributed to the HK$4 billion lifeboat for the futures exchange.

About half the money in the exchange fund is handed over to professional fund managers

They are restricted to investing in sterling, marks, Swiss francs, US dollars, Canadian dollars and Dutch guilders and in government debt with a maturity of not more than 10 years.

The rest is looked after by the Hong Kong government, restricted to even more liquid investments so that funds can be used at short notice to reinforce the peg by buying or selling Hong Kong dollars. Much of that money, too, is in foreign currency.

The exchange fund can also borrow up to HK$50 billion from the government's banker (The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation), the banking system or the treasury. The borrowings can also be used to buy foreign currency.

And over the past year, sterling has appreciated by 22 per cent against the Hong Kong dollar, the mark by 16 per cent, the Swiss franc by 19 per cent, the Dutch guilder by 17 per cent and the yen by 22 per cent.

Mr Nendick refused to specify the size of the massive exchange, how much the government had borrowed or what percentage was now in foreign currencies.

Some indication of the size of the exchange fund can be judged from the fact that it must maintain assets equivalent to 105 per cent of the Hong Kong dollar notes in issue plus all the government's debt certificates. That is about HK$65 billion but the actual figure — one Mr Nendick will never reveal — will be well above that.

"It is something the currency speculators would love to know," he said.

In spite of the big profits resulting from the falling dollar, Mr Nendick said they will not influence the government's decision to maintain the peg.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has also supported the peg with the US dollar. In its latest *Economic Report*, the bank said: "Yielding to speculative pressure on the Hong Kong dollar would only tempt speculators to return with a vengeance."

The bank gives the warning that "the lesson of 1983 when the currency tumbled should not be forgotten," adding: "There is no convincing economic reason for the link to change."

Bonn exceeds money target

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

The West German government heavily overshot its budget and monetary targets last year, it was revealed yesterday.

The Bundesbank acknowledged in it latest monthly report that the central bank money stock grew by 8 per cent in 1987, on a comparison of fourth-quarter totals. The target for the year was a rise of between 3 and 6 per cent.

Instead of slowing down as planned, the growth of central bank money accelerated slightly from 7.7 per cent in 1986.

The central bank money stock is the key short-term measure targeted by the Bundesbank. A 1988 target is due to be set next Thursday.

This will have to take into account the overshoot in the federal budget deficit for 1988, expected to be DM40 billion (£13.4 billion) rather than the original target of DM29.5 billion.

Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg, the finance minister, announced yesterday that the 1987 budget deficit had also exceeded its target. The final deficit was DM27.5 billion against a target of DM22.3 billion.

Despite these higher-than-expected government injections, the West German growth rate is unlikely to show any improvement on last year's estimated 1.7 per cent.

Herr Martin Bangemann, the economics minister, said yesterday that the government still expected the economy to grow by between 1.5 per cent and 2 per cent this year, although leading independent economic institutes have downgraded their forecasts to between 1 per cent and 1.5 per cent.

He confirmed that the government did not think any further stimulation was required.

BICC chief to lead engineer's council

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

Sir William Barlow, a former chairman of the Post Office and now chairman of the BICC engineering group, is to be chairman of the Engineering Council for three years.

He succeeds Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, in the middle of May.

One of his first challenges will be to boost the number of industrial companies which back the council, both in policy formulation and funds. There are 200 so far, mostly big companies, and the council wants to bring in more companies, including medium-sized and smaller ones.

The council is also becoming involved in moves to improve long-term educational training for engineers and technicians so that they keep up with the latest technological developments.

One of the high spots of the Tombs chairmanship was when the Government agreed to spend another £43 million on additional places in engineering courses at universities and polytechnics, a programme which started in 1985. More places are now starting to come through for manufacturing systems engineering, the most advanced form of production engineering.



Top job: Sir William Barlow

US retail sales jump by $907m

Washington (Reuter) — US retail sales rose $907 million (£498 million), or 0.7 per cent, last month to a seasonally adjusted $126.68 billion, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

Excluding cars, December retail sales were up 0.2 per cent, compared with a November increase of 0.3 per cent.

The December rise followed a revised increase in overall retail sales during November of 0.1 per cent. The department previously reported November sales up 0.2 per cent.

Retail sales by general merchandise stores fell 0.4 per cent in December after no change in November, while department store sales were down 0.7 per cent after being flat in November.

Sales of all durable goods, including cars, rose $841 million, or 1.7 per cent, to $49.59 billion in December after rising 0.2 per cent in November.

Total sales of non-durable goods were up $66 million, or 0.1 per cent, in December to $77.08 billion after rising 0.1 per cent in November.

The building materials category gained 1.3 per cent in December after falling 1.1 per cent in November. Sales at petrol stations were down 1.1 per cent last month after declining 1.0 per cent in November. And clothing sales rose 0.3 per cent in December after falling 1.6 per cent in November.

Davidson lowers sights

By Joe Joseph

Davidson Pearce Group, one of Britain's top 10 advertising agencies with a client list that includes Marks and Spencer, Fiat and the Department of Employment's Action For Jobs campaign, is forecasting a £500,000 drop in pretax profits to only £3.4 million for the current year.

The setback is the legacy of the agency's loss of some key advertising accounts earlier in the year and of problems with its sales promotion division.

But Mr Daniel Hodson, who joined as chief executive last October, feels the company is back on course for the next financial year following a broad reappraisal of its plans.

Yesterday, he announced Davidson Pearce was paying an initial £3 million for Product Plus, a promotion goods company whose clients include American Express, Black & Decker and the AA. Further payments of up to £4.5 million in loan stock will follow, depending on profits to 1990.

"Product Plus fits in extremely well with one side of our business — sales promotion and marketing — and it is a strong company, with a good growth record at a reasonable price," he said. "Initially it will clearly result in some benefit to our bottom line."

Mr Hodson, formerly finance director of Unigate, added: "We have taken a very close look at our overall strategy and we have a well thought-out corporate plan, with acquisitions targeted in key areas. This was one."

The agency's shrunken profits for the current year reflect Davidson Pearce's loss of key accounts, such as TWA and Dunhill.

Mr Hodson said that Counter Products Marketing, the sales promotion company that Davidson Pearce bought in 1986, also had a bad first half, but that it had now had "a change of management and is moving forward fast."

On the advertising side, he said: "We have got a number of strong new business opportunities, including two important pitches for Channel 4 and the International Wool Secretariat. In both of these it is down to a run-off between us and one other agency."

Product Plus made pretax profit of £646,000 on turnover of £5.66 million in the year last June.

JAL set to fly higher

Tokyo (Reuter) — Japan Air Lines expects current profit to rise to 40 billion yen (£173 million) in the year to March 31, 1992, from an estimated Y17 billion in 1987-88, it says in a projection covering the four years to 1991-92.

JAL expects steady growth in international passenger and cargo traffic and in its related businesses during the period.

Revenue from international passenger traffic is expected to rise by an average of 7.5 per cent a year and international cargo by 10 per cent.

Sales are expected to rise to Y1,093 billion in 1991-92 from an estimated Y828.4 billion in 1987-88.

JAL said it plans to spend Y490 billion on 23 new Boeing jets in the period.

It will also spend Y4 billion a year to diversify its related businesses, which include hotel, property, finance, publishing and education ventures.

Silvermines' £850,000 buy

Silvermines has acquired Johnson Precision of Nottingham, a subsidiary of Bullough. Johnson is a manufacturer of ball screws and lead screws for the European aerospace, industrial and agricultural markets.

It had sales exceeding £1.5 million in the year to end-October last on which it earned pretax profits of £150,000. The purchase consideration, which is based on the net asset value, will be about £850,000 in cash.

London Securities

The deferred shares of 2p each of London Securities have now been cancelled. The company intends to make a dividend payment of 106.925p per 4.55 per cent cumulative preference share in settlement of all outstanding dividends up to January 31, 1988. It intends to resume paying dividends on its ordinary shares of 15p each as soon as practicable.

Market debut

Associated-Henriques is coming to the market through a placing by CL-Alexanders Laing and Cruickshank of 2.75 million ordinary shares at 71.5p. The ordinaries are expected to be admitted to the official list and dealings begin on January 18. Associated-Henriques was incorporated in England last year as an investment holding company to acquire the DQ Henriques Group and the monetary assets of Cobra Metals and Minerals, a Canadian company. The principal trading company, DQ Henriques, was formed to provide trade finance and related services to clients engaged in the import, export and distribution of goods.

Profits up

In the half year to November 30, sales of Gnome Photographic reached £1.19 million (£1.07 million), while pretax profits reached £247,640 (£230,462). Earnings per share were 6.38p (5.95p). Assuming that the increased level of sales can be maintained, the board expects that total profits for the year to May 31 next should not be less than for 1987, despite the predicted fall in contributions from profits on sales of quoted investments.

M&G Dual Trust

A final dividend of 20.25p (18.05p) is being paid by M&G Dual Trust, making a total of 37.8p (33.7p) for 1987.

Rodney Smyth on the sensitive issue of private trading within the securities industry

Time for action on personal dealing rules

Ivan Boesky and others have made insider dealing notorious. It is fashionable to say that it is bad, although most people could probably not tell you why. Those who could would mumble something about the need for an "even playing field" and, perhaps, the duty to preserve clients' confidences.

One sensitive issue, though, is hardly talked about: personal dealing by people in the securities industry, falling short of criminal insider dealing. It is sensitive — it has always gone on, it can be highly profitable, and it has fierce opponents, and proponents, at the highest levels. "Personal dealing" means, of course, dealing for yourself, rather than for clients or your firm's book.

The justifications for it are simple: if you cannot deal for yourself, how can you deal for others? And if you are lucky enough to be able to afford it, why should the fact that you work in the securities industry prevent you?

As with insider dealing, the arguments against are more subtle. There is the public relations aspect: it may not look too good if, in the firm's time, you are making huge sums for yourself, when you should be working for the good of clients, or the firm's book. There are conflicts of interest: how can you be at one and the same time promoting your clients' interests, or the book's, and also your own?

There is temptation: if you spend your whole time thinking about dealing for yourself, you may be tempted to use confidential information that comes your way through your job, and suddenly you are insider dealing.

In practice, stockbrokers, stockjobbers, and now the vast securities conglomerates (BZW, Warburgs, etc), tackle the problem by (often very detailed) in-house rules carefully designed to check the worst abuses. Also, The Securities Association (TSA), the Stock Exchange's successor regulatory body from this April, proposes less detailed guidelines.

TSA's lack of detail means there is no industry norm. The result is that there is a great variation from firm to firm. Some say you must deal in-house — you cannot use an outside broker. Others say you may, although you need permission. Some say you need permission to do any deal at all, others say you need no permission, and yet others say you need permission for certain kinds of deal — for instance, in corporate finance clients' stock — but not others. That said, if you are in a highly sensitive department — for instance, corporate finance or research — you will probably (and rightly) be subject to more severe restrictions than if you were in, for instance, settlements.

If you are a compliance officer, with the job of policing the rules, you are in for an interesting time. First, the rules must be drafted. Staff may be surprisingly interested in the drafts, even if they hardly deal — not so, of course, in the detail of TSA's, or the Securities and Investments Board's, client protection rules. Personal dealing is an issue that everyone can understand, unlike the theology of TSA, or the SIB. Also, the rules affect the individual directly, not just the firm. But when drafting them, the more you think, the harder it gets — what about spouses, relatives, futures, options, or betting on an index?

In a securities conglomerate, with Byzantine conflicts of interest, policing the rules may be a full-time job for a compliance officer. Computers help. They show the order of dealing — so they would show if you dealt ahead of your client. They can also group transactions in interesting ways, so that if you deal very profitably, this can quickly be apparent — in theory, at least, a bad sign, particularly nowadays.

Cutting directly across all this are the cheap dealing rates traditionally, and still, available to all staff of securities firms (although more senior staff may command finer rates). These are generally considered a justifiable perquisite — like free conveyancing provided by solicitors to their staff, or cheap home loans by banks. Nevertheless, they do seem to give with one hand what the in-house rules try to take away with another.

What is to be done? The current rich variety of rules is fine for lawyers, barrack-room and otherwise, and, by what they prohibit, they afford fascinating insights into undreamt-of past abuses. But the confusion surely offers little reassurance to clients, or the public.

Two robust, but opposed, solutions are proposed: banning personal dealing altogether (but what do you do about discretionarily managed portfolios — especially as only the wealthy can afford them — or "popular" stocks?), or having no checks at all, except on insider dealing, on the grounds that personal dealing never did anyone any real harm, despite all those theoretical conflicts of interest.

Currently, a total ban would probably be unacceptable, although attitudes may change if scandals multiply. Conversely, total freedom (subject to the law) must be asking too much of human nature; if some stock is on the market, and there is no rule to say that you cannot take it for yourself, rather than for your client, or the firm's book, then why not have it?

At the very least, TSA should impose uniformity on the key issues — such as whether or not you can deal only through your in-house broker, what conflicts of interest should prevent you dealing, and staff dealing rates. Then the City would be able to say that an old Spanish Custom, of which the public is as yet hardly aware, has, for once, been put right on its own initiative, and not in response to outside pressure.

Rodney Smyth is a partner at Durrant Piesse, the solicitors.

هكذا من الأصل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Moderate gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on January 11. Dealings end January 22. §Contango day January 25. Settlement day February 1. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 20)

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your *overall total* and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a *winner* follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	TNT	Industrials S-Z	
2	Quick (HJ)	Motors,Aircraft	
3	Hazlewood Foods	Foods	
4	Haynes Publishing	Newspapers,Pub	
5	Jardine Math	Industrials E-K	
6	Amec	Building,Roads	
7	VSEL	Industrials S-Z	
8	Brazer (CH) (as)	Industrials A-D	
9	Harris (Philip)	Industrials E-K	
10	Tradiger Rte (as)	Industrials S-Z	
11	Tootal	Textiles	
12	Billam (J)	Industrials A-D	
13	Lopica	Electricals	
14	Fraser (JH)	Industrials E-K	
15	Wilding Office	Drapery,Stores	
16	AB Food (as)	Foods	
17	Redland (as)	Building,Roads	
18	Scapa	Industrials S-Z	
19	Bellway	Building,Roads	
20	CRH	Building,Roads	
21	Hambro Countrywd	Property	
22	Marley	Building,Roads	
23	Lloyds (as)	Banks,Discount	
24	Barr & WA 'A'	Leisure	
25	Robisson (Thomas)	Industrials L-R	
26	Hammerson	Property	
27	Caird (A) &Sons	Property	
28	Norcros	Industrials L-R	
29	Calor Gp	Oil,Gas	
30	Cairn Milling	Foods	
31	Birmingham Mint	Industrials A-D	
32	Portals	Industrials L-R	
33	Lon & Edin Trs	Property	
34	Burton (as)	Drapery,Stores	
35	BOC (as)	Industrials A-D	
36	BET Ord (as)	Industrials A-D	
37	McKechnie	Industrials L-R	
38	Lovell (GF)	Foods	
39	Ladbroke (as)	Hotels,Caterers	
40	Ocean Transport	Shipping	
41	Delta	Industrials A-D	
42	Barclays (as)	Banks,Discount	
43	Davidson Pearce	Paper,Print,Adv	
44	Merivale Moore	Property	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any *minus signs*

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BRITISH FUNDS

1987 High	Low	Stock	Price	Chge	Int. Gross yield	Gross red. yield

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

102¼	99⅝	Exch 10¾%	1988	100⅝	10.5	8.81
101⅜	99⅛	Treas 09¾%	1988	100⅛	9.7	8.17
104¼	99⅛	Treas 9¾%	1988-90	100⅛	9.1	6.782
101⅝	99⅛	Treas 9¾%	1988	100⅛	9.5	8.217
105¼	99⅝	Treas 11¾%	1988	102⅛	11.3	8.870
103⅝	97⅞	Treas 10¾%	1988	100⅛	10.4	8.414
105¾	99⅛	Exch 10¾%	1988	102⅛	10.5	8.813
108	99⅛	Exch 10¾%	1988	102⅛	10.5	8.813

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

118½	105	Treas 12¾%	1992	110⅝	11.5	9.288
106¾	89⅜	Treas 09¾%	1992	99⅝	9.8	7.869
109⅛	89⅝	Treas 09¾%	1992	99⅝	9.8	7.869
98	81¾	Exch 9%	1992	89⅝	10.0	7.826
117	100⅞	Exch 12¾%	1992	110⅝	11.5	9.288
121	102⅛	Exch 13¼%	1992	111⅝	11.8	9.411
107⅜	89⅝	Treas 10%	1992	98⅝	10.1	7.960
118½	107¼	Treas 12¾%	1992	110⅝	11.5	9.288
95⅝	81¾	Exch 9%	1992	89⅝	10.0	7.826
125¾	109¾	Treas 13¾%	1992	115⅝	11.9	9.411
129¾	113¾	Treas 14¼%	1992	119⅝	11.9	9.411
120¾	103⅛	Exch 13%	1992	111⅝	11.7	9.411
124¾	108¾	Exch 13¾%	1992	115⅝	11.9	9.411
103⅛	89⅝	Treas 10%	1992	98⅝	10.1	7.960
107¾	93⅝	Treas 10¾%	1992	102⅝	10.5	8.217
116⅛	99⅝	Treas 12¾%	1992	110⅝	11.5	9.288
84⅛	73⅝	Treas 8%	1992-95	79⅝	10.1	7.595
109¾	97¼	Exch 10¾%	1992	102⅝	10.5	8.217
122⅝	106	Treas 12¾%	1992-95	115⅝	11.1	9.288
130¾	115⅞	Treas 13¾%	1992	122⅝	11.2	9.411
127¾	106⅝	Exch 12¾%	1992	119⅝	11.2	9.411
113⅛	86	Treas 10¾%	1992	105⅝	10.2	8.217
129¾	115⅛	Treas 13¾%	1993	121⅝	11.3	9.411
111⅛	95	Treas 11¾%	1993	103⅝	11.3	9.288
101	86⅛	Treas 10%	1993	94⅝	10.6	8.217
125¾	112⅛	Exch 13¾%	1993	117⅝	11.7	9.411
140	121	Exch 15%	1993	131⅝	11.4	9.411
90¼	76⅝	Treas 8%	1993-95	83⅝	9.6	7.595
125¾	107⅝	Exch 13¾%	1993	117⅝	11.7	9.411
127¾	108⅝	Exch 13¾%	1993	118⅝	11.6	9.411
145	123⅝	Exch 15%	1993	134⅝	11.2	9.411
113	96	Treas 11¾%	1993	104⅝	11.3	9.288
101	86⅛	Treas 10%	1993	94⅝	10.6	8.217
129¾	110	Exch 13¾%	1993	120⅝	11.5	9.411
111⅛	95	Treas 11¾%	1993	103⅝	11.3	9.288
90¼	76⅝	Treas 8%	1993-95	83⅝	9.6	7.595
101	86⅛	Treas 10%	1993	94⅝	10.6	8.217
129¾	110	Exch 13¾%	1993	120⅝	11.5	9.411
127¾	106⅝	Exch 13¾%	1993	118⅝	11.6	9.411
145	123⅝	Exch 15%	1993	134⅝	11.2	9.411
113	96	Treas 11¾%	1993	104⅝	11.3	9.288
111⅛	95	Treas 11¾%	1993	103⅝	11.3	9.288
87¾	74⅝	Treas 8%	1994	81⅝	9.8	7.595
131⅝	114⅝	Treas 13¾%	2000	122⅝	11.2	9.411
109¾	92	Conv	2001	101⅝	10.8	8.577
134½	112⅝	Treas 14%	1998-01	123⅝	11.3	9.411

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

110	88⅞	Exch	9¾%	2003	101⅝	9.6
110¾	92	Conv	10%	2003	101⅝	9.8
122¾	107	Treas	12¾%	2003/07	112⅝	11.3
109	85	Treas	10%	2003/07	100⅝	9.9
119¾	94¾	Treas	12¾%	2000-05	110⅝	11.5
121¾	105	Treas	11¾%	2001-04	111⅝	10.5
112¾	94⅝	Treas	10¾%	2002-04	103⅝	10.4
107¾	93¾	Conv	10¾%	2003-05	100⅝	10.7
116¾	99⅝	Exch	12¾%	2003-05	107⅝	11.9
132¾	114⅝	Treas	13¾%	2003-05	122⅝	11.2
94¾	79¾	Treas	8¾%	2006-08	86⅝	10.1
110¾	93¾	Conv	10¾%	2007	101⅝	10.6
126¾	106⅝	Treas	11¾%	2007	116⅝	10.1
142	120¾	Exch	13¾%	2004-08	131⅝	11.3
104¾	86⅛	Treas	9¾%	2008 A	96⅝	10.1
102¾	84¾	Treas	9¾%	2008	94⅝	10.3
102	84¾	Treas	9¾%	2011	94⅝	10.3
134¾	112⅝	Treas	12¾%	2013-15	123⅝	10.3
134¾	115¼	Exch	12¾%	2013-17	122⅝	10.4

UNDATED

45¾	39¾	Consols	4%		9.5	—
41⅞	35¾	War Ln	3½%		8.5	—
53	46	Conv	3½%		9.5	—
39¼	33¾	Treas	3%		9.5	—
39¼	33¾	Consols	2½%		9.5	—
29¼	24¾	Treas	2½%		9.5	—

INDEX-LINKED

133½	124¾	Treas IL	2%	1988	130⅝	2.0
118½	109¾	Treas IL	2%	1992	117⅝	2.0
101½	93¾	Treas IL	2%	1996	98⅝	2.0
139¾	117¾	Treas IL	2%	1996	137⅝	2.0
111½	89¾	Treas IL	2½%	2001	109⅝	2.3
139¾	94¾	Treas IL	2½%	2003	137⅝	2.3
113	94¾	Treas IL	2½%	2006	111⅝	2.3
127¾	89¾	Treas IL	2½%	2009	125⅝	2.3
113½	89¾	Treas IL	2½%	2011	101⅝	2.3
65¼	78¾	Treas IL	2½%	2013	63⅝	2.3
103¾	83¾	Treas IL	2½%	2016	101⅝	2.3
107¾	84¾	Treas IL	2½%	2020	105⅝	2.3
85¾	69¼	Treas IL	2½%	2024	84⅝	2.3

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
373	280	Allied Irish	365	375	-4	39.0	10.4	8.3
298	198	Ansbacher (Henry)	285	295		27.0	9.2	10.3
128	98	Am Intn'l Gp	125	129	-3			
12½		Bank of Ireland	12	12½		17.0a	10	
240	175	Bk of Ireland	235	245	-5			
15	11	Bk of Scotland	14½	15		0.8a	4.8	11.2
85	58	Bk of Wales	80	84		3.4a	4.3	12.4
88	61	Barclays	84	86	-1	5.1	6.1	9.1
75	44	Brown Shipley	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Cater Allen	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
282	201	Chase Nex	275	285		15.0	5.5	8.1
111½	75	Clydesdale	107	109		6.0	5.6	9.1
75	44	Coutts	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Duncan Lawrie	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Edinburgh	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	First Nat Fin	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Gerrard & Nat	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Guinness Mah	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Hambros	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Hill Samuel	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Kleinwort Ben	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Lazard Brothers	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Lloyds	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Midland	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Morgan Grenfell	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	National Com	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Nat Westminster	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Rea Brothers	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Rothschild	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Royal Bk Scot	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Schlesinger	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Smith St Aubyn	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Standard Chart	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Standard Ulster	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Trustee Savings	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Ulster Bk	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Union Discount	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2
75	44	Yorkshire	72	74		3.0	4.2	11.2

ELECTRICALS

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
168	108	Alidair	160	165		6.0	3.6	12.2
290	207	Amstrad	285	287	-3	5.0	1.7	19.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Corp	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Inv	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Prop	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Sec	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Trust	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'A'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'B'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'C'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'D'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'E'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'F'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'G'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'H'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'I'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'J'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'K'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'L'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'M'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'N'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'O'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'P'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Q'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'R'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'S'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'T'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'U'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'V'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'W'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'X'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Y'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Z'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2

BREWERIES

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
47	37	Allied Lyons	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'A'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'B'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'C'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'D'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'E'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'F'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'G'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'H'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'I'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'J'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'K'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'L'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'M'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'N'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'O'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'P'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'Q'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'R'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'S'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'T'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'U'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'V'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'W'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'X'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'Y'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2
47	37	Allied Lyons 'Z'	45	46	-1	2.0	4.3	10.2

BUILDING, ROADS

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
168	108	Alidair	160	165		6.0	3.6	12.2
290	207	Amstrad	285	287	-3	5.0	1.7	19.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Corp	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Inv	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Prop	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Sec	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Trust	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'A'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'B'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'C'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'D'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'E'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'F'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'G'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'H'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'I'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'J'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'K'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'L'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'M'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'N'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'O'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'P'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Q'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'R'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'S'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'T'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'U'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'V'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'W'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'X'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Y'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Z'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
168	108	Alidair	160	165		6.0	3.6	12.2
290	207	Amstrad	285	287	-3	5.0	1.7	19.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Corp	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Inv	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Prop	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Sec	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Trust	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'A'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'B'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'C'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'D'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'E'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'F'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'G'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'H'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'I'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'J'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'K'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'L'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'M'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'N'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'O'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'P'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Q'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'R'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'S'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'T'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'U'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'V'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'W'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'X'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Y'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Z'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2

CINEMAS, TV

1987 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Chge	Gross div p	Gross Yld %	P/E
168	108	Alidair	160	165		6.0	3.6	12.2
290	207	Amstrad	285	287	-3	5.0	1.7	19.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Corp	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Inv	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Prop	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Sec	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Trust	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'A'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'B'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'C'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'D'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'E'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'F'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'G'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'H'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'I'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'J'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'K'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'L'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'M'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'N'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'O'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'P'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'Q'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'R'	105	107		4.0	3.7	12.2
107	70	Anglo Amer Ven 'S'	105	107		4.0	3

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
80, Hatchhurst Rd, Commonwealth SW8 6AL
(0345 717373 (Lastline)

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Gilt & Fixed	109.2	117.2⊖	-0.8	9.35
Hi Inc Equity	112.7	120.5⊖	-0.9	4.94
Worldwide Gd	180.4	202.9	+1.1	4.76
American Gth	139.6	139.5⊖		1.89
Asian Pacific	52.1	55.7⊖	-3.0	2.48
Assets & Earns	126.8	135.6	-1.3	2.11
Capital Pen	75.5	78.9	-0.2	1.53
Comm Energy	95.3	101.9	-0.1	1.12
Euro Capital	60.5	64.7	-1.1	1.16
General	153.2	163.8⊖	-1.2	2.75
Japan	81.7	87.3	+0.7	
UK Gth Inc	122.1	131.6	-0.4	1.62
Do Acc	179.6	192.0	-0.5	1.28
US Emerg Co	39.1	38.8⊖	-0.6	0.00
Income Gth	232.7	248.8	-2.2	3.82
Master Acc	64.6	69.0	-0.6	3.01
American Inc	40.0	42.7	-0.4	6.14
Small Co Tst	39.4	42.1	..	2.58

AETNA UNIT TRUSTS LTD
401, St. John Street London EC1V 4QE
01-837 9494

Euro Gth Acc	96.8	103.1	..	1.22
Exempt	97.1	103.5⊖	..	4.94
Far Eastern	174.5	186.6	..	0.10
Fin & Prop	76.0	80.5	..	2.89
Hi Yield	69.8	72.9	..	5.68
Income & Gth	288.6	305.7⊖	..	4.63
Int Earnings	172.2	182.4	..	2.98
Int Growth Inc	78.5	84.8	..	0.28
Japan Gth Acc	129.2	137.5	..	0.00
N Amer Gth Inc	103.6	110.8⊖	..	2.71
Preference Inc	123.5	130.8	..	9.60
Sm Co Div Inc	88.6	91.7⊖	..	1.94
Sml Co Gth	264.1	279.8	..	1.58
Spec Sits Inc	120.4	127.5	..	1.80
UK Growth	352.1	373.0⊖	..	3.43

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL
0793 28291 dealing:0793 610366

High Income	287.3	304.5	+2.2	4.88
Equity Inc	162.6	172.4⊖	+1.4	4.65
High Yield	186.5	178.9	-1.3	4.97
Balanced	391.2	414.7⊖	+3.3	3.47
Amer Inc	26.2	27.8	+0.5	4.34
World Ass Val	22.5	24.0	+0.1	1.59
Japan	120.3	128.1⊖	+1.2	0.01
Stc of Accy	168.5	179.3⊖	+0.5	1.19
Asset Value	281.7	298.6⊖	+2.3	3.33
Overss Earn	189.7	200.5⊖	+2.1	3.50
Recovery	97.6	103.5	+1.2	2.47
UK Spec Sit	235.6	249.7	+2.0	2.74
Smlr Co	161.5	171.2⊖	+0.3	1.96
Capital	226.1	249.2	+1.8	3.11
Amer Spec Sit	52.0	55.4	+0.1	1.93
International	83.9	89.1⊖	+0.3	1.52
Growth & Inc	144.6	153.3	+1.3	3.65
Euro Gth	91.6	97.2	+0.3	1.45
Pacific	184.3	196.3⊖	+1.7	0.42
2nd Smlr Co	201.3	213.4	+1.4	2.04

BALTIC TRUST MANAGERS
29, Clement Street, London EC1
01-374 6901

American	35.5	37.8	+0.1	2.42
Australian	16.2	17.3	..	1.98
Japan & Gen	144.5	153.2	+2.0	0.21
High Income	52.0	55.4	+1.2	5.54
International	77.7	82.7	+0.8	0.65
Income Growth	51.7	55.7	+0.6	4.56
Gth/Fixed Int	22.8	24.1⊖	+0.1	5.96
Global Inc	33.8	35.5	+0.4	5.48
Spec Sit	58.6	63.5	+0.4	1.47

BARCLAYS UNICORN
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7
01-534 5544

Capital	74.8	79.5	+0.6	3.23
Euro Gth Inc	94.8	99.5	+1.0	2.11
Extra Income	91.3	97.1	+0.7	4.95
General	157.9	167.9	+1.1	3.88
Gilt & Fixed Inc	92.4	95.1⊖	+0.1	9.89
Income Tst	353.4	367.4⊖	+2.6	4.11
Int Income	45.8	48.7⊖	+0.1	4.96
Smlr Co Inc	35.3	37.5	+0.1	1.44

BARING FUND MANAGERS
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XO
01-658 6000

Australia	46.9	51.4	+0.3	0.00
Eastern	58.2	62.2⊖	+0.2	0.00
Equity Inc	84.7	88.8	+0.5	5.40
Europe	107.9	114.3⊖	-1.9	0.10
Exempt Tst	14.2	15.1	..	0.00
Growth & Inc	70.5	75.0	+0.5	2.10
Global Gth	57.1	60.7⊖	+0.5	0.20
Japan Spec	126.0	134.7	+1.9	0.10
Japan Sml	133.8	143.0	+2.2	0.40
First Europa	94.1	100.1	+1.5	0.50
First Japan	93.5	99.9	+1.1	0.60
First N Amer	37.3	39.6⊖	+0.2	1.40
First Smlr Co	93.4	99.7	+0.3	0.50
N Amer Spec	35.8	38.0	+0.2	0.30
UK Growth	58.2	61.9	+0.3	5.17

BROWN SHIPLEY
9-17, Ferrymount Rd, Haywards Heath
0444 458144

Financial	150.8	162.2	+0.2	1.70
Smlr Co Acc	318.9	334.5	+1.3	1.47
Do Inc	190.9	265.3	+12.3	1.47
High Income	77.0	82.6	+2.6	5.20
Income	91.9	98.5	+0.6	5.16
Mon Portfl Inc	87.4	93.7	+0.9	2.25
Do Acc	137.6	148.2	+0.6	2.25
Nth American	42.8	45.8⊖	+1.3	0.21
Orient	80.8	86.6	+0.6	0.10
Exempt	246.6	261.2	+1.3	0.36
Recovery	58.7	63.2⊖	+3.2	0.35
German	21.7	23.3	-0.3	1.52
Int Recov	22.4	24.0	+0.2	1.00
Europe	15.3	16.5	+0.4	2.09

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
The Stock Exchange London EC2P 2JT
01-588 2800 01 623 2249

Emerg Inc	..	..	..	..
Fellowship Inc	57.5	61.2	-1.6	1.63
General Inc 4	2553	2692⊖	-4.2	1.27
Do Acc 4	413.2	439.6	-1.5	2.27
Income Fd 3	134.8	132.8	-1.3	5.20
Do Acc 3	230.8	245.5	-2.3	5.20
Int Inc 2	98.2	104.5	-0.3	1.75
Do Acc 2	131.4	139.8	-0.4	1.47
Smlr Inc 5	87.1	92.6⊖	-0.6	1.47
Do Acc	94.3	100.3	-0.7	1.47

CANNON FUND MANAGERS
1, Olympic Way, Wembley Middx HA9 0NB
01-902 8876

Growth	30.2	32.2⊖	-0.1	2.85
Income	39.7	41.2⊖	+0.2	4.02
Far East	23.8	25.4⊖	+0.1	0.35
North American	28.0	29.8⊖		0.00
Gilt/Fixed	39.9	41.4	-0.6	0.82
European	35.8	38.1	-0.6	1.40
Japan	73.6	78.3	+0.5	0.01

CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT
PO Box 551 Bevis Marks London EC3 7JQ
01-621 0011

Cardinal	378.9	404.2	+2.5	2.71
Income	334.2	355.6	+2.7	5.50
Nth Amer	207.4	220.7	+2.4	2.15

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ
01-588 1815

Investment	420.75	..	..	4.90
Fixed Int	142.65	..	..	10.62
Deposit	100.0	..	..	8.20

CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ
01-588 1815

Income	39679	●	..	5.25
Acc	CI2.0802	●	..	..
Deposit	100.0		..	8.32

CHASE MANHATTAN FUND MNGRS
72/73 Basinghall St. London EC2Y 5DP
01-606 6622
S/C Spec Sit 59.0 62.4 -0.2 0.46

CLERICAL MEDICAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH
0800 373393

Amer Gth	17.1	18.2	+0.2	1.07
Asia Gth	20.3	21.5	..	1.47
Dragon Gth	18.0	19.1	..	2.68
Equity Hi Inc	93.1	98.2⊖	+0.5	4.88
European Gth	22.1	23.4	+0.1	1.67
Gen Equity	45.6	48.3	+0.5	2.92
G/F Interl Gth	91.7	93.4	-0.1	8.12
Gth & Fixed Inc	24.1	25.4⊖		6.27
Int Income Tst	21.6	22.9	+0.1	6.53
Japan Gth	39.5	41.9	-0.4	0.00
Pedigree Gth	27.4	29.1	+0.3	2.57
Special Sits	32.9	34.8	..	2.34

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS
St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ
01-283 7500 Dealing 01-588 9818

UK & Gen Inc	48.9	53.1⊖	+0.3	3.79
Do Acc	51.2	54.5⊖	+0.3	3.79
Income Inc	52.9	56.3⊖	+0.4	4.18
Do Acc	54.4	57.9⊖	+0.4	4.18
Worldwide Inc	39.4	42.1⊖	+0.1	1.94
Do Acc	39.6	42.3⊖	+0.1	1.94
Gemms Inc	31.3	33.3	+0.3	0.78
Do Acc	31.3	33.3	+0.3	0.78
Amer Gth	48.0	51.1	+0.4	0.80
Euro Gth	46.6	49.6	-0.5	0.66
Far East	52.3	55.7	..	0.62

CROWN UNIT TRUST SERVICES LTD
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW
04862 5933

Amer Tst	95.7	103.5⊖	-0.6	0.97
Canadian Gth	17.3	18.7	-0.1	1.50
European Tst	78.9	85.3	-1.5	
Growth Tst	247.6	267.7	+3.1	3.19
High Income	95.3	103.1	+0.5	4.94
Int Tech Tst	97.1	105.0	+1.0	
Japanese Tst	186.7	201.8	+2.6	

CRUSADER UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Reigate, Surrey RH2 8BL
0737-242624

European Gth	43.6	46.8	-1.2	3.00
Euro Spec Sits	31.2	34.4	-0.6	1.30
International	44.3	47.7⊖	+0.3	3.56
N Amer Gth	36.6	38.3	+0.1	1.00
Pacific Gth	47.7	50.8	+0.6	4.80
UK Gth Acc	58.2	62.6	+0.4	0.50
Do Dist	58.9	61.2	+1.5	0.50
UK Income	55.2	58.4	-1.3	4.50

EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
4, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh
031-226 3492

American Fd	50.6	53.9	..	1.86
Capital Fd	115.3	122.8	..	1.38
Eurofund	20.0	21.3⊖	..	0.25
Growth & Inc	163.0	173.8	..	4.03
High Dist Fd	141.6	150.8	..	4.87
International	177.3	188.8	..	1.19
Pacific Fd	17.4	18.5	..	0.00
Resources Fd	21.5	22.9	..	0.00
Smlr Cap Co	36.6	38.9⊖	..	..
Tokyo Fd	167.2	178.1	..	0.00
Ex Assr 2	109.5	112.5	..	2.40
Ex Japan 3	105.4	109.3⊖	..	0.19
Ex Pacific 4	282.4	290.2	..	0.32
Ex Smlr Jap 4	216.9	222.9	..	0.10

EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LG
0242 221311

UK Balan Inc	79.6	84.5⊖	+0.6	2.86
Do Acc	83.0	88.1⊖	+0.7	2.76
UK Gth Acc	112.9	120.8	+0.8	2.28
UK High Inc	91.9	96.6	+0.6	4.54
N Amer Acc	57.2	61.0	+0.3	1.15
Far East Acc	100.9	107.6	+1.5	0.12
European Acc	62.1	66.2	-1.3	1.56
UK Gt/Fi Inc	34.5	57.8⊖	..	7.00
Do Acc	61.5	65.4⊖	..	7.00
Int Spec Sits	34.8	37.1	+0.1	1.83

ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
Admin Centre Hexagon House Romford RM3 8UB
0708 38566

Endurance	106.1	112.9	..	1.62

EQUITABLE UNITS ADMINISTRATION
Walton Street Aylesbury, HP21 7QW
0296 431480

Equit Pelican	88.5	94.3	+1.2	3.19
High Income	92.4	98.4	+0.6	5.12
Japan Fund	50.2	53.5⊖	-0.2	7.94
Tst Of Inv Tsts	75.9	80.8	+0.6	1.24
Spec Sits Tst	89.4	95.2	+1.2	2.50
Nth Amer Tst	47.6	50.7	-1.1	1.39
Far East Tst	91.4	97.3	+1.0	0.42
Int Growth	46.2	49.2	+0.3	1.63
European Tst	36.4	38.8	+0.4	1.80

EQUITY & LAW
St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1BD
0203 553231

UK Gth Acc	165.9	176.4	+1.3	3.52
Do Inc	136.3	146.1	+1.1	3.52
Higher Inc Acc	204.7	224.1	+0.4	4.58
Do Inc	233.9	248.8	+0.3	4.58
Gilt/Fixed Acc	107.7	113.3	-0.1	8.26
Do Inc	83.6	88.0	-0.1	8.26
N Amer Acc	102.8	109.1	+0.3	0.21
Far East Inc	91.4	97.3	+1.0	0.04
Euro Tst Acc	108.4	115.3	-1.8	1.15
Gen Tst	243.5	259.0	+2.2	3.69
Smlr Except	37.8	40.2	+0.2	3.12

F & C UNIT MANAGEMENT
1, Laurence Pountney Hill, London EC4R 0BA
01-623 4680

US Smlr Co	47.3	50.4	+0.2	1.68
UK Inc Fd	99.6	99.4	+1.1	0.00
Far East Fd	77.5	82.5	+1.5	0.00
Overseas Inc	55.5	59.1⊖	+0.5	4.83
Fxd Interest	56.2	59.8⊖	..	8.91
Natural Res Fd	52.2	55.6⊖	+0.2	2.12
European Inc	53.2	56.6⊖	+0.2	0.00
Financials Fd	41.0	43.7	+0.4	2.93
Int Tech Fd	93.1	99.1	+0.9	1.00

FS INVESTMENT MANAGERS
100, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA
041-332 2132

Blchip Gth Acc	58.9	62.7	+1.1	..
Do Inc	57.5	61.2	+1.2	0.40
Hi Yield Acc	27.3	29.0⊖	-0.4	..
Do Inc	26.2	27.9⊖	-0.3	5.10
Inc Gth Acc	51.0	54.3⊖	+0.4	..
Do Inc	45.4	48.3⊖	+0.3	4.00
Serv Co Acc	61.2	65.1	+0.3	..
Do Inc	61.2	65.1	+0.3	0.00
Amer Gth Acc	19.0	20.2	..	..
Do Inc	19.0	20.2	..	1.00
Euro Gth Acc	14.5	15.4	..	1.00
Do Inc	14.5	15.4	..	1.00

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
Rivar Walk, Tonbridge, TN9 1DY
Calltree 0800 414191

American	96.1	92.1	-0.1	1.25
Amer Equity Inc	25.0	29.5⊖	+0.1	5.27
Amer Spec Sit	36.3	38.6	+0.2	0.23
Australia	19.1	20.4	-0.1	2.59
Eurogrowth	45.4	48.5	-0.9	
Eurogrowth Inc	19.5	20.8	-0.2	4.75
Global Conv	21.2	22.5⊖	-0.1	5.62
Far East Inc	34.9	37.2	-0.1	4.08
Gt/Fxd Interest	78.5	●	-0.2	10.01
Growth & Inc	105.6	113.0⊖	-1.3	4.65
Japan Spec Sit	57.1	61.1	-0.9	..
Japan	140.5	150.3	-1.2	..
Main Interest	109.4	116.4	-0.6	1.16
Main Inc Equity	97.4	104.2	-0.6	4.85
Famous Name	37.1	39.7	-0.5	2.89
SE Asia	38.7	39.6	-0.5	0.99
Spec Sit	227.6	243.5	-1.3	0.90
Eastern Opps	19.3	20.6	-0.2	..

FRANLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
3, London Wall Bldgs, London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ
01-638 5181

Amer/Can Inc	142.4	150.6	+1.2	..
Do Acc	145.5	154.0	+1.2	..
Amer Gth Inc	150.6	159.3	+1.9	1.03
Do Acc	156.2	165.2	+1.9	1.03
Capital Inc	257.4	272.3	+1.6	2.18
Do Acc	267.3	282.7	+1.7	2.18
Conv/Gth Inc	100.2	106.0⊖	+0.4	4.99
Do Acc	141.1	149.2⊖	+0.6	4.99
European Inc	47.1	50.0	+0.2	0.67
Do Acc	47.3	50.0	-0.5	0.67
Extra Inc Inc	234.8	237.5c	+1.5	4.93
Do Acc	250.3	264.8c	+2.0	4.93
Financial Acc	38.7	40.9	+0.3	0.07
Do Inc	38.6	40.8	+0.3	0.07
Income Tst	150.6	159.3⊖	+1.4	3.98
Do Acc	166.2	175.8⊖	+1.4	3.98
Int Growth Inc	127.5	134.9	+0.6	..
Do Acc	141.8	149.9	+0.6	..
Japan/Gen Inc	100.6	106.4	+1.5	..
Do Acc	101.1	107.5	+1.5	..
Monthly Inc Fd	115.0	121.5⊖	+0.5	5.26
PEP 87	50.0	52.2	-0.1	3.97
Recovery	156.6	166.0⊖	+0.8	1.29
Do Acc	171.5	181.9⊖	+0.8	1.29
Smaller Inc	50.1	53.0	+0.1	3.98
Do Acc	50.1	53.0	+0.1	3.98

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
Dealing:0722 411411 Admin:0722 411622

Equity Dist	218.0	229.5	-1.2	2.72
Do Acc	251.7	264.5	-2.0	2.72
Euro Gth Dist	47.7	50.6	-0.2	0.98
Do Acc	47.7	50.6	-0.2	0.98
Fixed Interest Di	70.8	72.7	+0.3	10.04
Do Acc	144.1	153.2	-0.5	10.04
Int Gth Dist	46.8	48.7	..	1.51
Do Acc	46.8	48.7	..	1.51
Nth Amer Dist	100.7	107.5⊖	+0.7	2.61
Do Acc	102.4	108.8⊖	+0.7	2.43
Pac Basin Dist	148.9	158.2⊖	-2.1	0.16
Do Acc	148.9	158.2⊖	-2.1	0.16
Steward Dist	217.2	230.5	-2.4	1.28
Steward Inc Di	51.8	54.9	+0.4	3.64
Do Acc	51.8	54.9	+0.4	3.64
N Am Stwd Di	45.8	48.6	+0.1	2.01
Do Acc	45.7	48.6	+0.1	2.01

GT UNIT MANAGERS
5th Floor, 8, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ
01-283 2575 Dealing 01-626 9431

Amer Spec Sit	49.3	52.5	+0.1	0.79
UK Cap Inc	121.5	129.3	+0.5	2.50
Do Acc	129.2	137.5	+0.5	2.50
Income Fd	94.3	100.4	+0.7	6.26
International	138.5	147.4	-0.1	0.50
UK & General	145.0	154.3	..	0.50
Japan & Gen	245.0	261.8	+3.1	0.40
Far East Gen	109.5	116.5⊖	+1.4	0.20
European Fd	196.3	207.8	-2.5	0.10
Germany Fd	47.6	50.6	-0.1	0.00
Int Inc Fd	47.0	50.0⊖	-0.1	5.58
Wld Spec Sit	84.7	90.2	..	1.60

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ
01-623 1212 Dealing: 01-236 3685 Investor Services: 0800 289336

American	58.9	64.0	+0.5	0.70
Australian	17.5	18.7	..	0.00
British Acc	67.2	72.3	+0.8	2.01
Do Dist	57.3	61.2	+0.5	2.01
Capital Gth	27.7	29.5	+0.2	1.00
Comind Shars	56.4	60.3	..	1.00
European	41.1	44.3	+0.5	0.75
Extra Income	58.3	62.7	+0.5	4.48
Far East Tst	111.5	118.2	+1.4	0.26
Fed Interest	27.0	28.5c	+0.1	8.96
Frontier Mkts	21.1	22.5	..	0.30
Global Fd	146.8	157.9	+0.3	0.40
Do Dist	129.2	139.1	+0.2	0.40
Gold Share	18.9	18.0⊖	+0.1	0.01
Hedged Amer	28.7	30.7⊖	..	0.00
High Income	29.4	31.7⊖	+0.2	5.36
High Income	28.7	30.7	-0.1	5.36
Income Fd	96.0	103.3	+0.9	2.92
Int F/Interest	23.1	24.4⊖	..	8.93
Japan Tst	114.7	122.7	+2.1	0.00
Man Exp Fd	251.9	262.4	+1.1	0.00
Oil & Energy	38.6	41.5c	+0.5	0.00
Spec Sit	100.0	107.0	+1.3	1.29
UK Sm Co Rec	93.0	99.5	+1.4	0.30

Gartmore (formerly Oppenheimer) Tst Management Ltd

Glob Inc/Gth	88.4	74.2	-0.2	3.50
Oppen Hi Inc	32.8	35.0⊖		7.57
Oppen Inc	42.2	45.1⊖	+0.3	7.65
Pract Inv Inc	61.7	66.0	+0.2	2.62
Do Acc	114.9	122.9	+0.2	2.62
Wrlwide Recov	82.9	88.7⊖	-0.1	1.78

Selected Opportunities Tsts

American	24.6	26.3	+0.3	1.40
European	51.7	55.3	-0.7	0.72
International	106.0	113.3⊖	+1.4	1.00
Japan	68.1	64.3	+1.4	0.00
UK	58.4	62.4⊖	-0.3	1.05

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shackleton Hse, 4, Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR
01-378 7979 Dealing:01-599 0526

Int Gth	83.1	89.1	+0.6	1.19
American Gth	52.1	55.9⊖	+0.3	1.35
American Inc	54.4	57.8	+0.6	5.24
European Gth	42.7	45.8⊖	-0.3	1.28
Gold & Mnrls	56.8	60.7	..	0.55
Japan Gth	54.6	58.3⊖	+0.9	..
Pacific Inc	61.5	65.4⊖	+0.2	4.80
Pacific Smlr	37.2	39.7	+0.2	0.41
UK Prog Inc	70.1	74.9⊖	+0.6	4.15
UK Special Opps	130.0	139.0	-0.2	1.44
UK Co Tst	211.0	221.8	..	..
Gt British	34.9	37.3	+0.5	3.31

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
Royal Exchange, EC3P 3DN
01-588 8000

Gt/Pac Interest	115.6	120.2	+0.6	8.24
Gth Equity	223.2	236.2	+1.9	2.34
Guardhill	288.5	300.0	+2.9	2.98
Income Tst	91.5	96.9	+0.7	3.90

Int Tst 97.1 102.8 -0.9 1.37
N American 111.8 118.1 +0.6 1.09
Pacific 222.7 241.0 +3.1 0.00
Prop Shars 329.3 338.0⊖ +3.3 1.16
Smaller Co 258.8 273.7 +1.3 1.32
European Tst 197.5 209.0⊖ -4.2 1.78

GUINNESS MAHON UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
PO Box 642, 32 St Mary-at-Hill, London EC3P 3AJ
01-623 9333

Global Gth	33.5	35.7	-0.2	0.68
High Income	84.6	90.3⊖	+0.2	6.03
N Amer Tst	79.9	85.0	-0.7	0.93
Pacific Gth	31.6	33.7	+0.6	0.50
Recovery	301.1	320.4	-1.6	2.45
St Vincent Inc	98.8	101.4	-0.4	5.27
St Vinc US Gth	46.9	48.9	-0.4	1.16
Temp & Sm Co	222.8	235.2⊖	-0.8	2.31
Euro Gth Tst	93.2	98.5	-0.9	0.80

HAMBROS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex.
Enquiries 0277 227300 Dealing 0277 261616

Amer Equity Inc	47.9	50.8	+0.4	5.41
Canadian Tst	37.8	40.1	+0.4	5.32
Equity Income	100.9	107.1⊖	+0.9	4.99
European Tst	73.8	78.3	+0.4	1.17
High Income	80.5	85.4	+0.7	5.48
Int Sits Tst	44.8	47.5	+0.2	0.51
Japan/F East	92.4	100.5	+1.5	0.38
Nth Amer Tst	48.8	51.8⊖	+0.3	1.35
Recov & Asset	56.8	60.4	+0.8	1.96
Scandinavian	34.1	36.2	+0.1	1.15
Smlr Co	33.1	35.1⊖	+0.1	1.17
UK New Gen	37.5	39.8	+0.3	1.13

HENDERSON
Premier Uf Administration Advsts 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, 0277 261616

Amer Recov	75.9	80.9⊖	+0.2	0.00
Asset Shr Co	32.7	34.9	-0.1	0.00
Australian	19.1	20.4		0.00
Best of World	46.8	49.7	+0.2	2.45
Cap Gth Inc	66.5	69.4	+0.4	2.14
Do Acc	70.0	74.5	+0.5	2.14
Europrem	189.9	192.7	-3.2	0.91
Euro Inc Tst	38.6	41.4	+0.1	5.42
Euro Smlr Co	94.3	98.9	-1.2	0.16
Exempt Inc	204.9	215.9⊖	+0.9	4.89
Financial Tst	152.3	162.2⊖	+2.8	2.08
Fxd Interest	55.2	58.7⊖	-0.1	9.57
Gilt Inc	42.4	45.0	+0.9	6.60
Global Health	49.8	52.9	+0.3	0.00
Global Inc/Gth	58.6	63.0		0.00
Global Resrce	62.2	66.3	+0.3	0.00
Global Tech	92.4	98.5⊖		0.00
Gold	48.8	47.2	-0.6	0.00
High Income	209.3	223.0	+0.5	3.51
Hong Kong	50.3	53.6	+0.6	0.74
Inc & Gth Inc	174.5	185.9⊖	+0.7	2.79
Do Acc	330.0	377.5⊖	+1.3	2.79
Income Asset	123.8	131.7	+1.1	3.50
International	136.1	145.0	+0.3	0.26
Japan Smlr Sits

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Enjoying the spice of life

By Brian Collett

Today's taste for foreign cooking was anticipated more than 10 years ago by Keith and Angela Fiddes Payne. The result is a bustling herbs and spices business supplying customers ranging from department stores to Dartmoor Prison.

The Fiddes Paynes developed their liking for foreign foods through years of globe-trotting in Europe, Africa and Asia. Between them they took in Italy, Switzerland, Cyprus, Nigeria, South Africa, Thailand and Malaysia, and many of the new-found delicacies owed their flavour to herbs and spices.

On their return to Britain in 1968 they put their knowledge to good use by opening a small delicatessen in Grayshott, Hampshire, and a year later added a second shop in nearby Farnham, Surrey.

Within a few years, however, holidaymaking Britons were travelling further afield, developing more exotic tastes and ordering spices and herbs that the Fiddes Paynes found difficult to obtain. Widening horizons had widened people's diets just as they had encouraged more wine-drinking several years earlier.

"We had to look far and wide to locate supplies — usually in bulk," said Mr Fiddes Payne.

They were able to reach an agreement with the Robinski company which supplies the delicatessen trade and soon needed larger premises, moving to Banbury, Oxfordshire — appropriately to the Spice Warehouse in Pepper Alley. It was a gamble, involving the sale of the Grayshott and Farnham businesses, with an annual turnover of £100,000, starting a new business that was to have a £38,000 turnover for the first year, and cutting their own income by half. There were often 16-hour days.

The company now has a £230,000 turnover, and employs four full-time staff, several part-timers and a squad of outworkers, who sew the spice bags.

The Fiddes Payne customers include Fortnum & Mason, Heal's and Cavendish House, Cheltenham, one of the House of Fraser group.

About 18 months ago Oxford Prison requested various herbs and spices, and the Fiddes Payes then wrote offering their products to all Britain's jails. Around 10 per cent now buy from the company, to make up special and foreign diets. Everthorpe Prison, Humberside, was one of the customers — and when the chef moved to Dartmoor he took his suppliers with him.



Keith and Angela Fiddes Payne: Looking far and wide for supplies

The company's newest source is Egypt. A load containing mint, basil and marjoram has just arrived.

In July the Fiddes Paynes began a mail order service for animal-owners — Herbs for Horses. It arose when a woman placed an order for six kilos of garlic powder without first saying it was for her horse. The Fiddes Paynes now put together animal food packs using two gipsy recipe books by Juliette de Bairacli Levy — *Complete Herbal Handbook for Farm and Stable*, and *Complete Herbal Handbook for the Dog and Cat*.

The company has just taken over the herbal business, R. Brooks & Co, established in Covent Garden, London, in 1920.

MR FRIDAY



"What a coincidence — the amount you've saved me is exactly the same as your fee"

BRIEFING

Tips for a country life

■ A new loan and advice service is being set up to help small businesses in rural areas and will include preferential interest rates with a year's commission-free banking, *writes Derek Harris*.

It springs from an agreement announced yesterday between the Co-operative Bank and the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (CoSIRA). Slightly more favourable terms are being offered than under similar agreements with four other high street banks which over five years have provided £7 million for small rural businesses, helping to create about 1,500 jobs around Britain.

Some of the earlier agreements have proved more fruitful than others, according to Mr David Davenport, the CoSIRA chairman, but he was optimistic that the Co-op Bank deal would "add significantly to the number of growing and successful rural businesses."

CoSIRA advisers will vet schemes allowing the bank to offer loans at only 2.5 per cent above base rate. The loan minimum goes down as low as £2,000 spread over periods up to 20 years. Loans can be used for new or existing businesses employing no more than 20 skilled staff and operating in areas with a population of 10,000 or less.

Easier now to raise cash

A simplified application procedure for loans made under the Government's loan guarantee scheme should make it easier for small businesses to raise cash.

The new move applying to loans up to £15,000 was announced by Mr John Cope, the Employment Minister with special responsibilities for small businesses.

The revised arrangement means banks will be able to approve loan applications themselves without first referring them to the Department of Employment. This should speed up lending decisions.

The loan scheme provides a 70 per cent guarantee on loans up to a maximum of £75,000. The idea is to ensure finance for small businesses where conventional loans are not available due to lack of security or a track record. Since the scheme began in 1981 more than £600 million has been loaned to almost 18,000 small businesses.

The 2.5 per cent premium which has to be paid for the guarantee by the borrower can now be covered in a lump sum in advance incorporated in the loan. This is another simplification move, making bank calculations much easier.

Breaking-up to save a glass office

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The spectacular glass-fronted Glassmill office building on the Thames by Battersea Bridge, which stood empty for three years after it was built, is now filling up as the result of an innovative break-up operation.

The building, formerly known as Thames Walk, was built by Sunley Developments, who wanted a single tenant. Last summer they sold the building for a sum over £5.5 million to Skillion plc, who had been suffering the time-consuming and frustrating process of searching for office space, and whose solution was to buy the freehold of the building. "Quite simply we could not find high-quality offices to purchase in the size we required," Ric Hawley, Skillion's chairman, said. "We have always liked this building, its architecture and its location right on the river, and in the end its attractions far outweigh the problems of excess space."

So Skillion have taken two of the six floors in the 35,000 square foot block, splitting the rest into small units, and offering them for sale, rather than rental. They will be selling units from 1,250 square feet on 125-year leases — a form of ownership used for many years in blocks of flats, but almost never before in business space.

The cost of a typical 1,500 square foot unit is £375,000 and already four of the 16 units have been reserved, leading Skillion to believe that they have found a gap in the market.

Ric Hawley explained: "As a company we believe in owner-occupation. So do most individuals, but not most businesses, due to lack of opportunity. We are offering space on a residential basis at the Glassmill, with all the tax and asset benefits that follow."

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Continued on page 28

ENERGY EFFICIENCY **FOCUS** A SPECIAL REPORT

Saving heat in a cold climate

The Government's energy efficiency campaign doesn't stop at encouraging householders to lag and draught-proof, but is being backed by £100m to find new ways of saving power

The Government energy efficiency campaigns of the last two years have resulted in a new breed of householder, the type who start each winter checking on draught-proofing around the windows and doors, making sure that the lagging fitted to pipes is still in good condition and that the loft insulation does not need tucking in around the eaves.

The Department of Energy has indeed been remarkably successful in making people think about simple ways of trimming their fuel bills. Yet even the most active publicity campaign cannot persuade every consumer of the real savings to be made.

The department, with the Energy Minister, Peter Morrison, heading the drive for more efficiency and the under-secretary, Michael Spicer, making people think more of renewable energy sources, is still working to trim billions of pounds from the nation's fuel bills.

It is in the area of renewable energy that hopes are high for large savings to be made.

Mr Spicer said: "We are determined that Britain should maintain a lead in those renewable sources of energy

"To this end the department is supporting research, development and demonstration programmes aimed at exploiting the technologies which have a promising commercial future. It is essential, however, that the results of this are communicated.

The department has already spent more than £100 million on renewable energy projects and has placed contracts with more than 600 companies, universities and college research departments. Last year alone 94 new projects were initiated.

The technologies which have emerged as being economically attractive already are passive solar design in buildings, combustion of dry domestic and industrial wastes, and the digestion of wet wastes such as sewage and industrial effluents to produce methane.

Among those technologies which show great promise but which still require substantial further development are land-based wind power, tidal power, small-scale hydro power, energy forestry and geo-thermal hot rocks.

The department has had some surprises. Large-scale offshore wave power which looked promising in the 1970s has had to be relegated to the long-shot category because of the poor economics associated with large-wave energy-conversion devices.

Land-based wind power moved upwards in the department's estimations, and though still classified as promising but uncertain, the recent success of the Taylor Woodrow wind generator on the Orkney islands indicates that wind power could be economically viable early in the next decade.

Tidal power and wood could be significant sources in 2000

Among the other renewables that show promise of becoming economic in future is tidal power. Studies of the Severn and Mersey estuaries in particular suggest good possibilities if the financial and technical uncertainties can be resolved and no insurmountable environmental or ecological issues arise.

Energy forestry may also develop into an attractive option.

Research has shown that wood could be a significant producer of energy in the year 2000 and the department has set up a research-and-development and demonstration programme under its biofuels programme. The research covers such areas as combustion technology to make sure that the wood is burned properly.

What the department considers the most challenging prospect is the extraction of geo-thermal heat from hot dry rocks five kilometres underground. The UK is the world leader in exploring this technology — despite the fact that the geological conditions in Britain are generally unfavourable for hot rock power production — and the Camborne School of Mines is working in Cornwall on a research project.

Though attention within the department has been concentrated on the scientific side of renewable energy, the part it has to play in the efficient use of resources and in cutting the nation's overall fuel bill has meant that from now on, more emphasis will be put on environmental issues and on making the techniques developed publicly acceptable.

Renewable energy already has its firm fans. There is the monastery in Northern Ireland, where the monks have achieved something of a financial coup by turning what was a problem into a valuable source of energy.

Our Lady of Bethlehem Abbey in County Antrim has 300 cattle and 2,200 broiler chickens, which together produce 12 tonnes of manure each a day. It used to cause a disposal problem.

With help from the University of Ulster the monks installed an anaerobic digestion system produced by Farm Gas of Bishops Castle in Shropshire, England, which used the manure to produce methane gas to fire the monastery boilers which previously used electricity.

The project cost £65,000 which will be repaid in under three years. The residue from the ingestor is a dry, odourless and rich fertilizer, which local gardeners are queuing up to buy.

David Young
Energy Correspondent

Stephen Mackeson



Wave power: Michael Spicer, the Energy Under-Secretary, on the mud flats near Cardiff which are being considered as the site for the proposed Severn Barrier and are the subject of £300,000 environmental studies to protect local bird life

Snug as ever in the park

The new building regulations to be brought before Parliament this session, including floor insulation and heating controls to bring about a 20 per cent energy saving in homes, will be nothing new at the Milton Keynes Energy Park development.

The first of its kind in the world and planned to combine all policies which promote energy efficiency, the park is this year to enter phase two of its housing policy which will take energy saving beyond the regulations.

The 600 houses in phase one, half of which are now occupied, are estimated to be 30 per cent more efficient in energy saving than yardsticks laid down by present regulations. The aim is to maintain that differential when the new regulations come into force.

Whereas the first phase was intended to demonstrate the practical application of proven technology — and most developers included floor insulation as a matter of course — the aim of the second phase is to attract a higher proportion of state-of-the-art and prototype energy policies.

- **The overall standard of energy efficiency will be increased by improving the computer-based Milton Keynes energy cost index.**
- **Each house scheme will be required to make a specific contribution to the development of energy efficient housing. This could either be a technology such as a covered street scheme or an overall approach such as an innovative low-cost housing scheme.**
- **Increased participation is being sought from Europe: building firms will be asked to develop in the energy park to demonstrate the greater cost-effectiveness of continental house-building.**

Michael Hatfield

Keep warm, without a bill

HOUSING

The main lesson learned from the Government's energy efficiency campaign literature which came through letter boxes — by now well draught-proofed the Government hopes — is that often most money can be saved by the cheapest energy saving measures.

Fuel savings of more than 60 per cent are shown in some of the case studies now published in a booklet put out by the Energy Efficiency Office, the Association for Energy Conservation, the National Housing and Town Planning Council and the Building Research Energy Conservation Research Unit.

Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, said: "Although it has been produced primarily for local authorities and is intended for housing managers, treasurers, architects and councillors with housing interests, it will be useful to housing associations and any other large landlords.

"Local authorities and housing associations are responsible for some 6.5 million homes in England and Wales. Almost 30 per cent of the country's £38 billion energy bill is used in the home and £3 billion a year is spent on fuel bills in local authority housing alone. Much of this energy is still needlessly wasted.

"The guide illustrates how various local authorities and housing associations have successfully tackled the problems across a whole range of housing. I am grateful to those who have contributed these case studies of good practice and I am confident that many others will benefit from them," he said.

"Included are examples of new, housing with major improvements in energy efficiency built in. These expose the myth that such improvements inevitably lead to increased capital costs. The local authorities and housing associations who have pioneered this approach are recognized and their tenants already benefit by lower fuel bills.

"The ultimate beneficiaries will therefore be the tenants, who will enjoy greater comfort and lower fuel bills if their landlords adopt these good practices."

Among the most favoured methods of energy saving promoted by the department is cavity wall insulation, and although there are many who doubt the economics of such moves figures have been issued by the department which show that large savings can be made.

The National Cavity Insulation Association points out that whereas previously it would have cost £1,600 to heat a house over a four year period, following cavity wall insulation, fuel bills for the same length of time are likely to be reduced to £1,200.

Thus it is fair to say, suggests the association, that an insulated house is heated free one year in every four. In addition the initial outlay is not as expensive as generally thought. A typical centre-terrace house costs on average £300 to cavity insulate, a semi around £350 to £500, and a detached house £500 to £600.

A four year pay back is claimed for the average installation.

Government figures state that cavity wall insulation applied to a typical three-bedroom semi using a well controlled central heating system for 16 hours a day can show annual savings of £75 for gas central heating, £100 for cheap rate electricity, £225 for full rate electricity and £135 for oil.

If you do choose to go down the cavity wall insulation route, make sure that the contractor chosen is an association member and that the materials used are covered by the appropriate British Standard or Agrement Board Certificate. In fact the association stresses that the expertise of the installer is more important than the material used.

DY

ENERGY BLUEPRINT 33

HELPING BUSINESS MAKE MORE OF ITS ENERGY



New light on pool efficiency

Energy efficiency is the theme of a versatile lighting scheme provided at the Newport Centre, Wales, whose major feature is a swimming pool incorporating a diving area, wave machine, flume and shallow 'beach' area.

The centre is used for a variety of events, ranging from poolside fashion shows to galas and pool parties and an important requirement of the lighting is that it should enable different moods to be created to suit the occasion.

To provide this flexibility, parts of the lighting installation can be selected by means of a comprehensive switching system.

General lighting for the irregularly shaped pool consists of 40 wall-mounted floodlights housing 400W deluxe high pressure sodium (SONDL) lamps. Half of these are equipped with black louvre blades to minimise direct glare. The full installation provides an average, horizontal illumination over the pool surface exceeding 500 lux, but this can be reduced to about half when daylight is available.

Thirty-two low-energy 200W tungsten halogen floodlights illuminate the brickwork, providing local lighting for the spectators' gallery and reducing contrast from the main lighting. Decorative effects can be added by a number of 500W tungsten halogen spotlights equipped with external colour filters.

To improve pool safety and reduce reflection, 14 special underwater luminaires housing 400W metal halide (MBIF) lamps are mounted in the pool sides.

In the restaurant overlooking the pool, tables are lit by compact, individual fluorescent lamps, continuing the energy-efficient theme.

For more information tick coupon box 2.



Hotel comfort is all-electric

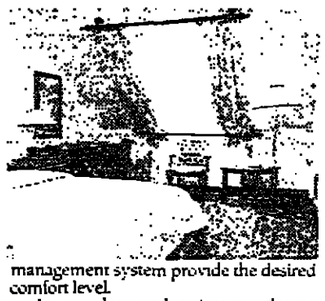
Although mains gas was available, the new Cedar Court Hotel at Junction 39 of the M1 Motorway at Wakefield chose electricity to meet practically all its energy needs – and has been more than satisfied with the results.

The hotel has 100 bedrooms and extensive conference facilities. The owners wanted comfortable conditions to be available for guests no matter what time of day or night they arrived.

Yorkshire Electricity Board was called in to carry out a feasibility study to assess the needs for bedroom and other heating services throughout the building.

Acting on the Board's findings, after carefully considering the alternatives, the hotel management opted for electricity for the hot water and environmental comfort requirements.

First, direct-acting electric heating proved to be competitive with gas for the intermittent requirements in bedrooms. Electric panel heaters controlled by integral thermostats and a central energy management system provide the desired comfort level.



In corridors and stairways, electric storage heaters maintain reliable warmth using low-cost night-rate electricity. Seven heat pumps provide air-conditioning in other public areas.

Hot water, too, makes extensive use of the low cost night-rate electricity. Bedrooms, kitchens, bar areas and public facilities are served by 28 factory-insulated water heaters with thermostatically-controlled immersion elements. The heaters are located close to where the water is needed to avoid excessive pipework losses and range in size from five to 2,300 litres to match needs in different locations.

Also, energy-efficient lighting has been installed throughout the hotel and the central energy management system ensures that the most effective use is made of the electricity tariff.

Annual running costs for all the electrical services in the 100-bedroom hotel, including conference facilities, have consistently worked out at an economical £525 per bedroom (or £9.80 per square metre) for each of its two years in operation. It is no suprise, that with a scheme so straightforward to run, the owners, Acropolis Hotels Ltd, are planning to use the same system again in an extension of Cedar Court and in other future developments.

For more information tick coupon box 1.

Light relief for home furnisher

Display lighting generates heat and for Harvey Furnishing at Harlow, electricity has provided some light relief.

The group's showrooms in Harlow are in the town's Harvey Centre, a covered shopping mall. With no windows or skylights to admit natural light, the entire customer area is illuminated by strip and spot lighting.

As a result, an efficient and reliable air-conditioning system was needed to maintain a comfortable working temperature in the store. Though the main requirement was for cooling, there was also an occasional need for additional heat.

The solution was a system of ceiling-recessed, split-system heat pumps capable of either heating or cooling. Two two-way air direction cassette-type units, installed in the centre of the showroom, fitted easily into the existing ceiling space. No duct work was required and simple pipe connections to the outside condenser unit were all that was needed.

Operated by a remote wall-mounted controller providing a wide range of settings, each unit heats or cools as necessary.

An integral electronic control system automatically maintains a comfortable temperature and prevents energy waste.

For more information tick coupon box 3.

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FOCUS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The stricken town uses the elements

ELECTRICITY

A French company is building 50 all-electric hotels here, the latest in Cardiff

Sevenoaks, which lost its trees during last autumn's gales, is now able to control and harness some of the elements at one of Britain's most modern swimming pools. With an electric heat retrieval system, pioneered by the Electricity Council, the energy required to maintain indoor swimming pools such as that at Sevenoaks, has been cut by 80 per cent compared with 15 years ago.

Before electric heat recovery systems became available, indoor pools were paying for energy equivalent to 10,000 kilowatt hours per square metre of the pool area. This has been progressively reduced to 2,000 kWh per square metre.

Traditionally a single heat source such as a boiler is used to heat both the water and air in the hall, but large amounts of moisture evaporate from the pool and need to be removed from the air. This often means heating a fresh intake of outside air, using and wasting a great deal of energy.

With the electric heat retrieval system, an electric heat pump can be installed as an energy-saving measure. It reduces the moisture content of the air leaving the pool. The heat recovered from the heat pump during the de-humidification process can be used to warm the pool hall air. It can also compensate for the heat lost from the water by evaporation.

The dual function of the heat pump, acting as an ambient source heat pump and de-humidifier, offers the potential for the lowest energy costs, and ensures that the plant is worked to the full for a quick return on investment.

This relatively new system has been developed mainly for new office buildings where the high cost of separate systems for space heating and air conditioning had been recognized much earlier.

There is another cost-effective energy-efficient option for commercial offices without air conditioning, the latest example being at Hurn Airport, Bournemouth.

Energy Efficient Design buildings, as they are called, are well insulated to standards above those of the current building regulations. The decentralized panel heaters are designed to respond to internal heat gains more quickly than central heating systems even if radiators are fitted with the best controls now available.

Electric space heating also has lower capital and maintenance costs and can be finely tuned to the occupants' individual comfort requirements. In addition, Energy Efficient Design makes maximum use of cheap night electricity tariffs to heat the building before occupancy every morning.

The Building Research Establishment at Garston, Hertfordshire, adapted four cellular offices in its own energy office building to these standards and monitored the internal environment, energy usage and other necessary parameters for a year. The results encouraged the Electricity Council to publish its own Energy Efficient Design building specification.

A French company, Campanile, which operates more than 130 all-electric hotels and restaurants in France, is now building about 50 all-electric hotels in Britain. The latest was opened in Cardiff last month and there are plans for another eight this year.

On the domestic side, the latest campaign to be run by the Electricity Council is space and water "total heating", designed to encourage homeowners to combine the latest generation of electric heating appliances to meeting complete heating needs.

The "total heating" system is designed specifically to make the most of cheap night time Economy 7 electricity. It is argued that nine-tenths of the energy needed for annual heating and hot water requirements should be at the cheap night rate.

Modern, slim storage heaters, using less than half-price electricity on the Economy 7 night rate, provide the base heating load, designed to meet 90 per cent of the total heating requirements.

Direct acting heaters (including panel and fan heaters) are installed in rooms not used all the time and give short-term heating under careful temperature control. New factory-installed tanks with specially designed immersion heaters and controls ensure a plentiful supply of cheap hot water, most of it heated using the Economy 7 tariff.

Michael Hatfield



Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, switching on a wind generator at Burgar Hill, Orkney, which is capable of providing electricity for 2,000 island homes

Success in cutting waste

COAL

British Coal is now virtually running to stand still because of the more efficient use of fuel, *writes Michael Hatfield.* While acquiring *about 500,000 tons of new business a year, it* is at the same time losing sales of about 200,000 tons because of energy efficiency and technological innovation. Cement manufacturers, one of BC's big industrial customers, for instance, are requiring less coal ever since they moved from wet to dry process manufacture.

And British Coal was hardly helped when the Government ended its coal-conversion grant scheme, which had attracted £400 million worth of business. BC is now operating its own conversion scheme to encourage industry to switch from oil to coal aided by EEC grants

The impetus to encourage the wider use of coal through increasingly more efficient appliances is high in BC's strategy.

Technical developments relating to the industrial and commercial use of solid fuel have advanced in recent years.

On the domestic side, BC is competing on two fronts: the main heating market and stand-alone fires. BC has encountered a visible increase in the latter in the South-East since last autumn's gales. Consumers have been installing stand-alone fires to burn the wood, and when that runs out, the expectation is that they will resort to coal.

BC has been scoring successes with its Coalflow products, the central-heating boiler which stokes itself automatically, powering radiators around the house and supplying constant hot water. They are energy-efficient because a controlled supply of low-cost fuel is steadily fed into the boiler from its own built-in coal store. The store needs reloading from as little as once a week in the summer; every few days in the winter.

Benefits to flow

OIL

Though oil companies seem to have a low profile in the energy efficiency campaign, it disguises much research into insulation materials and techniques and an improved efficiency of refineries. Since 1970, for example, Esso has invested more than £40 million in energy conservation projects, which are now yielding savings totalling about £28 million.

Much of the investment has been at Fawley, where one of the major items was the installation of a gas turbine generator to allow the refinery the flexibility to balance its power consumption and demand for usage of steam.

British Petroleum's development of low-viscosity oil, while meeting the initial reluctance to use lighter oils in engines, has proved there can be something like a six per cent fuel-saving. BP's research centre at Sunbury, employing 1,800 staff, is a team of materials scientists, resin chemists, engineers and physicists engaged in developing advanced materials such as polymer composites, ceramics, coatings, carbon and carbon matrix composites.

A great saving has been solving the problem of transporting heavy crude oils and bitumens, which are difficult to produce and process economically because of exceptional viscosity. Solving the problem by this high viscosity provided the key to unlock massive but largely untapped world hydrocarbon resources. The solution was Transoil technology through collaboration by BP and Petroleos de Venezuela. It works by producing fluid oil-in-water emulsions.

The technology allows operators to meet pipeline viscosity specifications without the need to add expensive dilutant.

Better deal for customers

GAS

With energy efficiency being one of the key selling points in the highly competitive fuel supply industry, research and development is taking on increasing importance as efficiency improves and margins of cost-effectiveness narrow, *writes Michael Hatfield.*

British Gas spends more than £70 million a year on its R&D activities, primarily aimed at reducing operating costs, increasing the market share for gas and ensuring future supplies.

In the first year of the gas industry's privatization, about 600,000 new central heating systems came into use – some 52 per cent of all homes were reported to have gas central heating, and over 80 per cent of all new homes built last year were gas heated.

The dilemma for British Gas, with an increasing number of customers, is the medium term future of supply as extraction becomes more expensive.

Nonetheless, there are an increasing number of energy-efficient systems and appliances coming onto the market to meet the demands of some 16 million domestic customers as well as industrial and commercial users.

The range of industrial applications can be gauged from the regional winners in the Gas Energy Management Awards. The national winner will be announced next month. The awards are designed to reflect the particular contribution of clean, controllable natural gas to the efficient use of energy.

The Wymss Brick Company in Scotland, for example, modified and updated its two kilns from oil to gas firing and then subsequently carried out further modifications and improvements to one of the kilns, reducing energy usage by 40 per cent.

It the North west, Greenwood and Coope cut energy consumption by 100,000 therms a year when it improved the efficiency of a 280ft-long oven used to produce more than 7 million square yards of foam backed carpet each year.

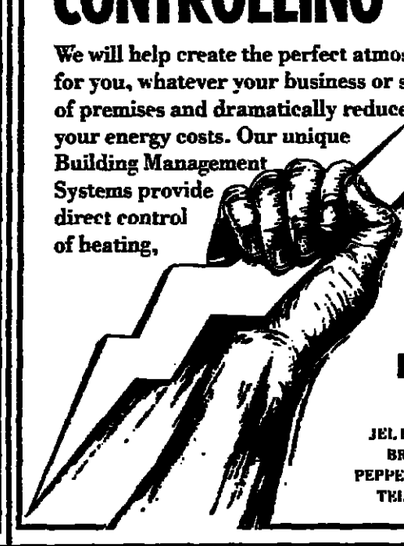
Technological innovation has helped bring about considerable savings. Henry Williams Ltd, for example, improved production and reduced its energy consumption when it installed a new slot forge at its works in Darlington, Co Durham.

A new gas-fired furnace heated by two regenerative burners allows greater control, fast warm-up from cold and improved output, and is giving an annual energy saving of 19,000 therms – a reduction of 55 per cent.

The North Thames regional winner in the space heating and hot water section was Trusthouse Forte Hotels, which achieved energy saving of 42 per cent at its 630-bedroom Excelsior Hotel near Heathrow Airport.

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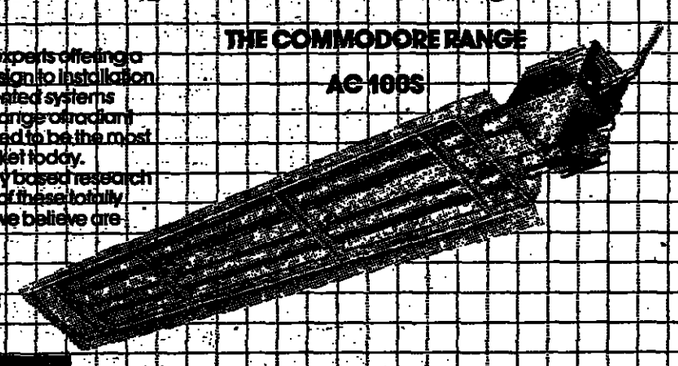


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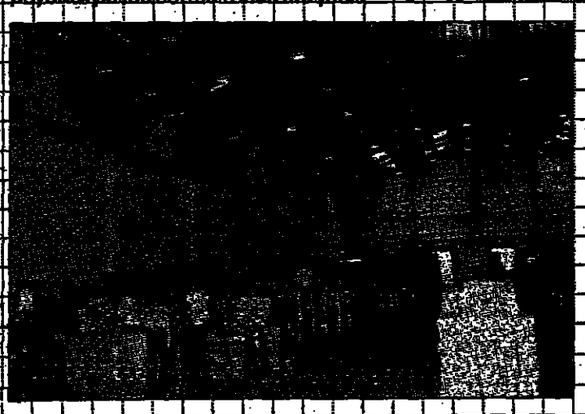
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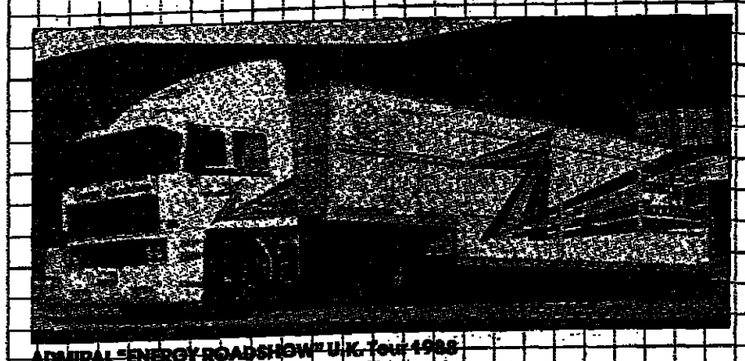
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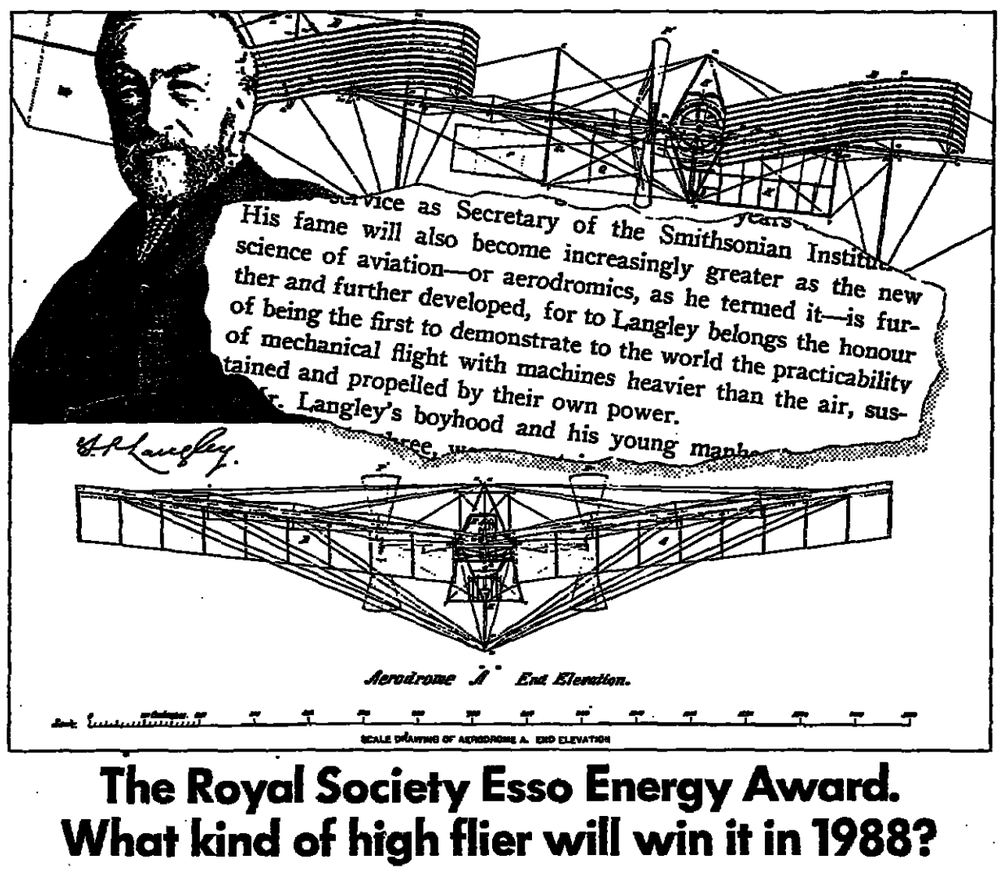
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Samuel Pierpont Langley, FORMEM.R.S., built the first mechanically powered model 'aerodrome' to fly a convincing distance – 3,000ft. in 1896.

The 1987 winners were three scientists at British Aerospace.

Their work on wing design technology for civil aircraft has led to increased aerodynamic efficiency and consequent fuel savings – and been applied to the 125 Business Jet, the 146 Feederline and the Airbus family.

Winners before them have worked on weather forecasting systems; power station efficiency; solar energy utilisation; heat exchanger networks; traffic signal systems; fuel-saving compounds for tyres; and gas-fired furnaces. So we welcome entries from any relevant area.

Nominations for the 1988 Award: The Royal Society Esso Energy Award has been supported by Esso since its start in 1974, and is given annually *for outstanding contributions to the advance of science, engineering and technology leading to the more efficient mobilisation, use or conservation of energy resources.*

For further details and nomination forms, please contact The Executive Secretary (Ref THB), The Royal Society, 6 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG. Tel: 01-839 5561.

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87 Peugeot 1.9 205 GTI White, grey hide 5 spd, e windows c/l, sun roof, FSH £8,495
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Continued from page 25

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Motoring by Clifford Webb

Sterling symbol of one-upmanship

The latest round of price increases announced by Austin Rover this week, means that its most expensive car, the Rover Sterling, now costs over £20,000. That puts it in the same price bracket as competitors with a much better image, such as the Jaguar XJ6 3.6, the Mercedes 260E and BMW 528i SE.

None of these, however, comes close to matching the Sterling's lavish equipment. It starts with sumptuously upholstered leather seats which, for the driver and front passenger, can be adjusted electrically and heated for cold mornings. There is also a built-in memory to switch from your spouse's driving position to your own at the touch of a button.

Extra one-upmanship enables rear seat passengers to recline their seat backs electrically.

A ten function trip computer provides something to play with on a long journey by keeping tabs on ETA, fuel consumption (instant, used and average), average speed, distance to go etc. Cruise control lets you relax without attracting the attention of motorway police. An electric slide-tilt sun roof takes care of the occasional sunshine. There are courtesy lights and reading lights everywhere.



Rover Sterling: lavishly equipped, but lacking mid-range power

Sterling is equally refined mechanically with a 2.5 litre Honda V6, 24 valves engine, five speed manual, or 4 speed automatic gearbox, self levelling suspension, speed sensitive power steering and ABS anti-lock braking.

The alloy engine has been justifiably criticised for its lack of mid-range power. There is a yawning hole in the middle of the torque curve. This was not so apparent on the manual version I drove last week because frequent gear changing covers the gap. The automatic, on the other hand, hunts nervously up and down between third and fourth never sure which is the optimum gear - and automatics rule the roost in this sector of the market.

Fortunately, the problem is about to disappear. I understand that a 2.7 version of the engine (already seen in Honda's new Legend Coupe) is now being fitted to Sterling and will be on sale here next month. The betting is that it will be accompanied by another price increase. However, the extra lugging power of the bigger engine should be worth a few hundreds of pounds extra to make an already attractive car more relaxing and competetive to drive.

Vital Statistics

Model: Rover Sterling
Price: £20,733
Engine: 2494cc, alloy 24 valve V6
Performance: 0-60mph 7.8 seconds, maximum speed 133 mph
Official Consumption: Urban 22.4 mpg, 56mph 39.5 mpg and 75mph 32.1 mpg
Length: 15.4 feet
Insurance: Group 7

Steering a safer course?

1988 will be dubbed "Four Wheel Steering Year" if the Japanese have their way.

Honda was first into the field here last autumn with a 4WS version of the Prelude. Mazda follows suit in three months time with the 626 2 litre injected GT 4WS which will cost about £14,500 compared with Honda's spresent day price of £14,100.

Two out of goodness knows how many car manufacturers in the world does not of itself suggest a significant new development but so obsessed is today's industry with advancing the frontiers of technology, that no one wants to be left behind.

My admittedly brief encounter on private roads with the Honda system was inconclusive. I am not yet convinced that the extra cost - Mazda says about £850 - is money well spent for the average driver who will find it almost impossible to tell the difference between 4WS and good conventional steering. Improved steering response, greater manoeuvreability for parking or lane changing, more control on corners and better straight line stability are claimed.

It will be at least a couple of months before I can assess these claims on my regular test routes. At the moment I would rather spend that sort of money on life-saving anti-lock brakes. However, at least one of my motoring colleagues believes that 4WS reduces driver fatigue, leading to safer driving.

Bargain BMW at only 39k

BMW's 750iL - the long wheel-base version of its superb new 5.3 litre 12 cylinder model - costs a cool £53,750 and that is way over the top for most company budgets.

The extra space in the long body together with the luxurious fittings makes this an ideal chairman's transport but if it is going to be chauffeur driven most of the time, why bother with all that expensive 12 cylinder technology under the bonnet?

It is to meet just this situation, that BMW (GB) has decided to import the 735iL Special Equipment using the long-body but powered by the familiar 3.5 litre 6 cylinder unit. At £39,750 that shows a saving of £14,000, sufficient to buy the sales manager a new 320i.

Ford phone kit

Ford is mounting a big push in the cellular phone market with a new low-cost kit selling for only £821 plus VAT. In addition it has reduced the recommended price of the system it launched in August 1986 from £1,195 to £935 plus VAT.

Both systems feature hands-off operation, 32 digit dialling, an electronic lock, last number re-dialling and automatic re-dialling to an engaged number every 20 secoads.

There are already some 220,000 mobile phones in Britain.

Forever young...

The ageless Mini is now in its 29th year and still selling well. These days, however, it sells mainly as a "fun" car for youngsters and it is with them in mind that a pair of limited edition Minis goes on sale on February 16th. One black, and the other pillar-box red, they are not surprisingly labelled "Red Hot" and "Jet Black".

Some 2,000 are being produced for the UK and a further 4,000 for export. They should cost a shade under £4,500 compared with £4,098 for the Mini City and £4,896 for the Mini Mayfair.

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1986 316 Zinnober Red/Anth, MSR, Stereo, Colour-keyed, FSH, 1 owner, low mileage, ... £8,995

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635 CSIA 84 B. White/leather £14,995
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316 2 dr. A reg. auto. 34,000 miles, licence, 1 year warranty, red, PAS, a/c, digital rad/cas. £6,000. Tel. 01- 769 2548.

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CRICKET

Eight-wicket debutant puts India in command

Madras (Reuter) – Narendra Hirwani, the leg-break bowler, spun his way into history on his debut yesterday to set India up for victory in the final Test against West Indies.

The bespectacled 19-year-old captured eight wickets for 61 runs, becoming the first Indian and only the fourth player to claim eight wickets in an innings on his initial Test appearance. "I wanted to take all 10 wickets but I did not get the opportunity," he joked later.

India, 1-0 down in the four-match series, finished the third day on 181 for four, a lead of 379.

Hirwani, producing the occasional unplayable ball, began the West Indies collapse by bowling Richards for 68. He then captured the remaining four wickets to finish the day's tally with five for 26.

Next to go was Butts, who departed without scoring after lofting Hirwani to extra cover, where Raman took the catch. Dujon followed next ball, giving More, the wicket-keeper, an easy stumping.

Walsh provided a note of defiance, straight-driving Hirwani for six, but fell soon after, caught behind. Davis was adjudged leg-before for one and Hirwani led his team off the pitch.

The West Indies fast bowlers broke through quickly in India's second innings as the home side slumped to 37 for three, but Raman, who is also making his Test debut and finished the day 82 not out, and Azharuddin added 87 for the fourth wicket to put the game virtually beyond reach of the touring team.

INDIA: First Innings 382 (Kapil Dev 109, Arun Lal 69; W W Davis 4-78).

Second Innings

K Srikkanth lbw b Davis	17
Arun Lal lbw b Walsh	1
W V Raman not out	82
M Amarnath c Richardson b Walsh	1
M Azharuddin c Davis b Richards	39
A Sharma not out	22
Extras (b 8, lb 3, nb 8)	19
Total (4 wkts)	181

Kapil Dev, *R J Shastri, †K S More, A Ayub and N Hirwani to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-36, 3-37, 4-124.

BOWLING: Patterson 4-0-10-0; Walsh 10-4-30-2; Davis 6-0-20-1; Butts 21-1-62-0; Hooper 6-1-20-0; Richards 18-4-28-1.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

D L Haynes c Kapil Dev b Shastri	13
P V Simmons c and b Kapil Dev	8
R B Richardson c Azharuddin b Hirwani	38
*I V A Richards b Hirwani	68
A L Logie c Azharuddin b Hirwani	12
C L Hooper lbw b Hirwani	2
†P J L Dujon st More b Hirwani	24
C G Butts c Raman b Hirwani	0
W W Davis lbw b Hirwani	1
C A Walsh c More b Hirwani	8
B P Patterson not out	0
Extras (b 8, lb 2, nb 2)	12
Total	184

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-37, 3-98, 4-128, 5-132, 6-163, 7-175, 8-175, 9-183, 10-184.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 7-0-20-1; Amarnath 3-0-8-0; Shastri 13-6-29-1; Ayub 28-10-47-0; Hirwani 18.3-3-61-8; A Sharma 4-0-9-0.

Umpires: R B Gupta and P Reporter.

Australian victory is Taylor-made

Melbourne (Reuter) – Peter Taylor, who fought his way back into the Australian team after being dropped, steered his side to a convincing 38-run win over Sri Lanka in a World Series Cup match yesterday.

The victory assured Australia of a place in the finals with eight points from five matches.

Taylor, who lost his place after last year's World Cup, took the man of the match award for his unbeaten 27 and four wickets for 38. The New South Wales off-spinner captured the vital wicket of Madugalle, the Sri Lankan captain, just when the touring team looked like threatening the Australian total of 243 for eight off 50 overs.

Sri Lanka could manage only 205 from 44.5 overs after a collapse which saw the last six wickets fall for 42 runs.

The young Sri Lankan team, who beat New Zealand in Hobart on Tuesday, were poised to record another upset when Madugalle and Ranatunga were at the crease. They shared in a stand of 97 runs to help Sri Lanka recover from 66 for four and close in on the winning target.

Then Taylor claimed the wickets of Madugalle, caught for 44, and de Alwis, who fell without scoring. Ranatunga was run out for 67 in the next over.

Australia had recovered from a shaky start in which they lost openers Boon for two and Marsh for nought with only six runs on the board. A 60-run partnership between Jones and, Veletta led the revival with Veletta recording his highest score in the series – 46 off 68 balls.

AUSTRALIA

D C Boon c Ranatunga b Ratnayeke	1
G R Marsh c de Alwis b Labrooy	0
D M Jones c Mahanama b Ranatunga	31
M R J Veletta b Jeganathan	46
S R Waugh c de Alwis b Labrooy	27
*A R Border c Labrooy b de Silva	61
†G C Dyer c Madugalle b Labrooy	4
P R Taylor not out	27
C J McDermott c Gurusinha b Labrooy	19
A I C Dodemaide not out	10
Extras (lb 11, w 6)	17
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs)	243

T B A May did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-6, 3-66, 4-90, 5-158, 6-172, 7-190, 8-220.

BOWLING: Ratnayeke 8-0-24-1; Labrooy 10-1-39-4; Ramanayake 5-0-32-0; Ranatunga 10-0-47-1; Jeganathan 7-0-36-1; de Silva 10-0-54-1.

SRI LANKA

R S Mahanama b Dodemaide	7
D S B P Kuruppu lbw b Waugh	22
A P Gurusinghe c Border b McDermott	7
P A de Silva c Boon b McDermott	10
A Ranatunga run out	67
*R S Madugalle c and b Taylor	44
†R G de Alwis c Veletta b Taylor	0
J R Ratnayeke c Dyer b Dodemaide	16
G Labrooy c McDermott b Taylor	13
S Jeganathan c Border b Taylor	1
C P Ramanayake not out	6
Extras (lb 8, nb 1, w 3)	12
Total (44.5 overs)	205

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-27, 3-38, 4-66, 5-163, 6-163, 7-164, 8-183, 9-189.

BOWLING: Dodemaide 7.5-2-36-2; McDermott 10-2-42-2; Waugh 7-0-33-1; May 10-0-48-0; Taylor 10-1-38-4.

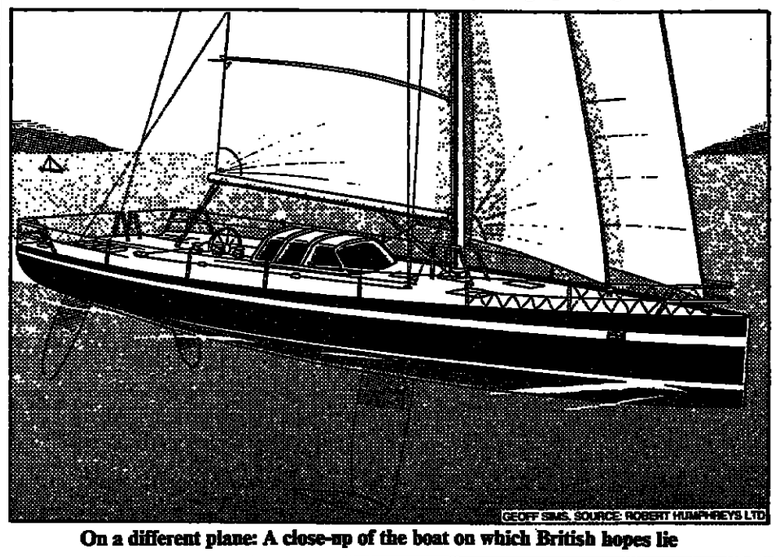
WORLD SERIES CUP

	P	W	L	Pt	Rate
Australia	5	4	1	8	4.91
New Zealand	5	3	2	6	4.27
Sri Lanka	6	1	5	2	4.03

YACHTING: BRITAIN'S MASTER MARINER TAKES UP GAUNTLET THROWN DOWN BY THE FRENCH



In the picture: Knox-Johnston (right) and Rob Humphreys, his designer, with a drawing of the yacht to be used for the round-the-world race (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)



GEOFF SIMS, SOURCE: ROBERT HUMPHREYS LTD

On a different plane: A close-up of the boat on which British hopes lie

Knox-Johnston puts himself to the test again

Twenty years after Robin Knox-Johnston set out as a "no-hoper" to become the first solo sailor to complete a non-stop circumnavigation of the world, the master mariner is girding himself for another attempt.

It was sheer grit and determination that brought him back to Falmouth after 313 days at sea, during which time he survived several knockdowns in the Southern Ocean, broken rigging, blown sails and a wrecked self-steering mechanism. On top of that, the lone yachtsman sustained acid burns from a split battery, boils and sores wracked his body, and he also suffered food poisoning from contaminated water.

Tremendous feat of endurance

It was, therefore, a tremendous feat of endurance, and in winning the *Sunday Times* Golden Globe trophy, he beat nine other more-fancied rivals who all found the 27,000-mile voyage too great an undertaking.

Since then, Knox-Johnston has completed a second global race, taking a full crew with him in the 1977/8 Whitbread event, and traversed the Atlantic 15 times. For the past six years he has been an administrator, chairing the committee that has guided 26 others in retracing his wake in two BOC three-stop singlehanded round-the-world races.

Pen-pushing, however, has never been Knox-Johnston's forté and what has brought him back to test himself against the seven seas is the gauntlet thrown down by the French – a non-stop race starting from Brittany in September 1989.

At 48, Knox-Johnston has 16 years seniority over his greatest rival, Philippe Jeantot, of France. Winner of the two past BOC races, Jeantot regards the Briton's non-stop crown as the last big challenge. His task will not be an easy one.

The British yachtsman, a professional diver, remains very fit. A smoker he may be, but few sailors can match his press-ups routine or swim two lengths of a pool underwater – except, perhaps, Jeantot. Knox-Johnston holds Jeantot in the highest regard: "I know I can beat the rest. It's only Jeantot I am not sure about. He is one of the most complete sailors around today – and that's why I want to take him on," he said.

Knox-Johnston claims that while strength and stamina remain great assets, especially during the first week at sea, racing alone soon becomes a battle of will, determination and experience – his strongest attributes.

Rob Humphreys, designer of Blue Arrow, the America's Cup yacht, has been commissioned to draw up a 60ft ultra-light successor to the tubby, doubled-ended Suhaili which carried Knox-Johnston round before at a sedentary four knots. In contrast his new yacht should plane through the Southern Ocean at 20 knots or more, and show a clean set of heels to the fully-crewed fleet in the Whitbread race that sets out from Portsmouth on the same day.

Taking third bite at the cherry

Also recruited to the cause will be weathermen to guide him towards the strongest winds, not away from them. The next year will be spent researching ideas for water replenishment, lightweight foods developed for NASA, and anything else that will lessen the speed-sapping weight of supplies needed for the six-month voyage.

Afterwards, Knox-Johnston intends to take a third bite of the cherry by competing in the next BOC event, starting from Newport Rhode Island in 1990, before attempting to cap his career with monohull honours in the Carlsberg single-handed transatlantic race – an event he intends to compete in this year aboard the ageing Suhaili – just to keep his hand in.

Barry Pickthall

A need to welcome sponsors aboard

By Barry Pickthall

Rule 26 and its restrictions on sponsorship, outdated attitudes among race organizers, and a lack of accurate information from craft during off-shore races, were cited as the principal problems restricting yachting from becoming a major media sport at a conference called by the International Yacht Racing Union in London yesterday.

Paul Antrobus, special events director for the United Distillers Group, sponsor of Britain's White Horse America's Cup Challenge last year, suggested that yachting still had to decide whether it was to remain a Corinthian past-time or embrace commercialism.

"Whatever the rule on advertising aboard yachts, let it be clear and let it be part of the business of yachting," he said. "It should not be part of the racing rules but part of the conditions for the event. It is unacceptable to leave it to the contestants to protest during the event and a jury to decide each issue. This only leads to uncertainty and is detrimental to the sport."

The sport also came in for criticism from television, first for attempting to charge for the privilege of exposing yachting on the screen, and making the sport over-complex. "Too many races are decided not on the water, but in jury rooms. Perhaps there is a case for organizing races specially for television using water-borne referees," Peter Duncan, the Australian television producer, suggested.

Journalists also made it clear that interest in the long distance races such as this year's Carlsberg single handed transatlantic events, cannot be sustained unless modern satellite tracking devices such as Argos are used to monitor the fleet.

"It is obvious that organizers must become media-men as well as mark layers," said David Arnold of the Royal Thames Yacht Club, one of 90 delegates who came from as far afield as Australia, Japan, Hawaii and the United States to the meeting hosted by James Capel.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated

FOOTBALL

Barclays League

Third division

Southend v Mansfield (7.45)

Fourth division

Colchester v Hartlepool

Tranmere v Halifax

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Bath v Metropolitan Police (7.15); Exeter v Exeter University; Moseley v Saracens; Weston-super-Mare v Plymouth Albion (7.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE

SILK CUT CUP: Preliminary round: Bramley v Sheffield; Leigh Miners v Hunslet (at Leigh).

OTHER SPORT

DARTS: Embassy world professional championship (at Frimley Green, Surrey).

HOCKEY: Birmingham Midshires international indoor tournament (at Cocks Moors Woods, 7.0).

SPORT ON TV

DARTS: Embassy world professional championship from Frimley Green. BBC2: 11.40 p.m. (see also Sport on Friday).

ICE SKATING: European figure skating championships from Prague. C4: 5 p.m. ITV: 11.35 p.m. BBC1: 10.15 p.m. (see also Sport on Friday).

SPORT ON FRIDAY: Darts: Embassy world professional championship from Frimley Green. Ice Skating: European figure skating championships from Prague. Rugby Union: Preview of five nations championship.

SQUASH RACKETS

Harris seeks more glory

By Colin McQuillan

Del Harris, the teenage national champion, attempts the third leg of a unique domestic grand slam in the Blue Stratos British under-23 open championships which begin at Lambs Club, London, tomorrow. But it could be the young women of the international circuits who provide the best of the competition over the ensuing seven days.

Harris, aged 18, has won the national senior championship, the closed under-23 and the open under-19 so far this season. He wants to end his junior career by adding the open under-23 and the world junior championships in March to his collection.

It is likely that only Zarak Jahan, the Pakistani younger brother of England's Hiddy Jahan and twice runner-up in this tournament, can present a serious challenge to Harris. A regular on the world circuit, Zarak, aged 19, reached the last 16 of the World Open Championship in Birmingham in October. He is fast and hungry and he wants this title.

The women's championship is less predictable. Lucy Soutter, the former national champion and current world No. 5, returns to defend the title she won last year. But also in the field is Liz Irving, the highly talented Australian beaten by Miss Soutter last year.

Miss Soutter, now aged 20, and the previous junior world champion, begins her defence against another Australian, Michelle Martin, and is then scheduled to meet Donna Vardy, the British under-19 champion.

TOP SEEDINGS: Men: D Harris (Essex), Z Jahan (Pakistan), A Davies (Wales), J Nicolle (Hampshire), D Meddings (Surrey), N Stiles (Surrey), M Oxley (Cambridgeshire), R Owen (Avon). Women: L Soutter (Glos), E Irving (Australia), S Fitzgerald (Australia), M Martin (Australia), D Vardy (Nottinghamshire), F Geeves (Glos), B Hoogendoorn (Netherlands), S Brady (Australia).

Format change sought

The Board of the International Squash Players' Association, the professionals' union, appears to be determined to change the format of the game as soon as possible following experiments in North America last autumn (Colin McQuillan writes).

At the ISPA annual meeting in April, members will be asked to the International Squash Rackets Federation for permission to lower the tin two inches (from 19 to 17 inches) for all ISPA tournaments, to remove the service line from the front wall and to adopt American point-per-rally scoring to 15 points per game with only one service.

BASKETBALL

Gardner unrepentant in criticism of officials

By Nicholas Harling

While the top three English clubs reflected on impressive achievements this week, one club from north of the border, or more particularly one man, was feeling anything but benign.

Joedy Gardner, the coach of MIM Livingston, whose Carlsberg League title hopes faded with their 100-93 defeat at Portsmouth, retires at the end of the season adamant that British officials will have driven him out. "They have no compassion for the players, no feeling for the game," he said. "I have no need to take this after 46 years in basketball."

When told his latest altercation with an official, midway through the Portsmouth game, had in fact been with an American, Les Brown, a Major in the United States Army, Gardner said: "I can understand why he was refereeing here. They wouldn't have him in the United States."

Gardner's outburst, following, among other things, an intentional foul called on Way, overshadowed a fine Portsmouth revival. The defending champions now lead Kingston by four points, but have played two games more than their rivals.

Kingston's hopes of reaching the European Cup Winners' Cup improved with the 111-92 win by Limoges in Leverkusen on Wednesday night. Now they have to beat Leverkusen at home on Tuesday to become the first British team to qualify for a European semi-final.

Although Manchester United have no chance of reaching the semi-finals of the Korac Cup, they gained an outstanding win by 120-119 on the court of the Italian League leaders, Caserta.

Scots Law Report January 15 1988

Delay was unfairly prejudicial

McGainness and Another, Petitioners

Before Lord Davidson

[Judgment December 24]

A company's decision to delay holding an extraordinary general meeting requisitioned by two members until a date some seven months after the date of requisition, although not in breach of section 368 of the Companies Act 1985, was unfairly prejudicial to the members concerned.

Lord Davidson so held in the Outer House of the Court of Session in granting the prayer of a petition ordaining the directors of the company to convene a meeting at an earlier date, to give notice thereof to the members of the company, and to appoint independent scrutineers to count the votes cast at the meeting.

Section 459 of the Companies Act 1985 provides: "(1) A member of a company may apply to the court by petition for an order . . . on the ground that the company's affairs are being or have been conducted in a manner which is unfairly prejudicial to the interests of some part of the members (including at least himself) or that any actual or proposed act or omission of the company (including an act or omission on its behalf) is or would be prejudicial."

Mr John Murray, QC and Mr Paul Cullen for the petitioners; Mr William Galbraith, QC and Mr Stuart Gale for the respondents.

LORD DAVIDSON said that the petitioners, a director and another member of Bremner plc, sought orders under section 459 of the 1985 Act regulating the conduct of the affairs of the company.

At a meeting on July 23, 1987 it had been resolved that the company should acquire the share capital of Carswell Ltd, which carried on a stock-broking business, in order to develop the company's activities into the provision of financial services.

The first petitioner, who was chairman of Carswell, was appointed as a managing director with special responsibility for Carswell.

Disputes quickly arose between the first petitioner and the other directors, who, the first petitioner believed, lacked the capacity to implement the company's new policy.

On November 4, 1987 the petitioners requisitioned an extraordinary general meeting to consider resolutions for the removal from the board of three directors, and the appointment thereto of two experienced stockbrokers, a director (the second petitioner) and an employee of Carswell.

The company gave notice on November 23, 1987 that a meeting would e held in London on June 9, 1988 to consider the resolutions.

The petitioners argued first that by the proposal to hold the meeting seven months after the date of the requisition the respondents were in breach of section 368 of the 1985 Act.

Second, it was submitted that in any even the unreasonable delay was unfairly prejudicial to the petitioners, among other members.

Section 368(1) required the directors of a company, on a member's requisition, forthwith to convene an extraordinary general meeting. Section 368(4) provided that if the directors did not proceed within 21 days to convene a meeting, a majority of the requisitionists might do so.

The petitioners submitted that the word "convene" was apt to include the calling and holding of a meeting. The plain implication of subsection (4) was that the directors were bound to call and hold a meeting within 21 days.

Reference was made to an opinion of Mr Justice Hodgson in *Joint Receivers of Nilian Carson Ltd v Hawthorne* (QB, April 9, 1987, unreported).

His Lordship preferred the interpretation of section 368 favoured by Mr Justice Nourse in *Re Windward Islands (Enterprises) UK Ltd* ([1983] BCLC 293). The distinction between "convened" and "held" in section 368(4) indicated that "convene" should be given its secondary meaning of "summon" or "call". If the rival interpretation were adopted, the directors could not in practice give due notice of resolutions requiring 21 days' notice.

Regulation 37 of the Companies (Tables A to F) Regulations (SI 1985 No 805) supported the Jenkins Committee's view that the purpose of what was now section 368 could be defeated by the directors calling a meeting for a date six months ahead. The petitioners were therefore obliged to seek relief under section 459 of the 1985 Act.

On that second point his Lordship referred to the observations of Mr Justice Nourse in *Re R. A. Noble (Clothing) Ltd* ((1983) BCLC 273, 290) that the test was whether a reasonable bystander observing the consequences of the directors' conduct would regard it as having unfairly prejudiced the petitioners' interests.

The company had not adopted Table A as part of its articles of association. Nevertheless his Lordship considered article 37 pertinent because it reinforced the *prima facie* view that a delay of seven months was unreasonably long, and therefore prejudicial to the petitioners' interests.

The right of holders of the requisite amount of share capital to requisition an extraordinary general meeting was one of the most valuable remedies which minority shareholders enjoyed.

As a rule they were entitled to expect that that remedy could be exercised by the holding of a meeting within a reasonable period. As a generality, delay was prejudicial to the interests of a person who sought to work out a legal remedy.

That general proposition applied in the present case.

In order to determine whether there was unfair prejudice it was necessary to examine the reasons given by the respondents for fixing the date at June 9, 1988. Those related to the agreements between the company and the petitioners for the purchase and sale of Carswell.

The respondents contended that if the petitioners obtained control of the board prior to the receipt of Carswell's audited accounts to April 1981 there would be a conflict of interest in relation to the consideration payable to the Carswell vendors.

His Lordship held that that reasoning was unsound because the petitioners as directors of the company would be in no position to influence the amount of any further consideration payable to them under the Carswell acquisition agreements. The petitioners were entitled to relief under section 459.

Solicitors: Maclay Murray & Spens; McGrigor Donald & Co.

Law Report January 15 1988

Forfeiture of burglar's car appropriate

Regina v Stratton

Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice McCullough and Mr Justice Saville

[Judgment January 14]

The power under section 43 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act 1973 to forfeit vehicles used for committing or facilitating the commission of offences was extremely appropriate punishment and should perhaps be considered more frequently by courts.

Lord Justice Woolf so stated when delivering the judgment of the Court of Appeal allowing in part an appeal by John Edward Stratton, aged 50, against sentence of 18 months' imprisonment and a forfeiture order of his car imposed at St Albans Crown Court (Judge Hickman) on pleas of guilty to two counts of burglary, with three offences taken into account. The prison sentence, passed last October, was reduced to nine months suspended for two years.

Section 43 provides: "(1) Where a person is convicted of an offence punishable on indictment with imprisonment for a term of two years or more and the court . . . before which he is convicted is satisfied that any property which was in his possession or under his control at the time of his apprehension — (a) has been used for the purpose of committing, or facilitating the commission of, any offence . . . the court may make an order . . . (3) . . . to deprive the offender of his rights, if any, in the property to which it relates."

Miss Rosalind Foster, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that the appellant entered a house in St Albans while the occupants were asleep and took cassette tapes valued at £35 and some cash. He entered another house while the occupants were asleep and stole a video recorder and £22 cash.

He was arrested nearby after a chase, having been seen acting suspiciously near cars. The tapes were found in a ditch and the video recorder in his car. The car was valued at between £1,500 and £2,000.

After initial denials he admitted the offences and said that the doors of the houses which he had entered were unlocked and he had tried other doors first.

The other offences which he asked to be taken into account included the theft of some £259 with which he had been entrusted two months earlier by members of a darts club, of which he was a member.

For domestic burglary of such a nature on occupied homes at night there could be no doubt at all that a sentence of 18 months, whatever the offender's record and his circumstances, could not be described as other than wholly appropriate.

Miss Foster did not contend that the court did not have jurisdiction to make the forfeiture order and she recognized also that the appropriate way to regard the order was as part of the penalty for the offences.

In the circumstances he was, in addition to being imprisoned, effectively fined £1,500 to £2,000. At that time he had no other assets. Her primary submission was that, considering the appellant's circumstances, the total penalty was excessive.

In their Lordships' view that was the proper approach.

The imposition of a forfeiture order, if the court had jurisdiction to make a forfeiture order, could not be criticized.

Where a car was used for the purposes of facilitating the commission of offences of burglary it was extremely appropriate for the court, in exercising jurisdiction to punish a defendant, to take advantage of the powers under section 43 of the 1973 Act to bring home to the offender the serious consequences of his conduct.

Perhaps it was a power which should be considered more frequently by courts when considering what was the appropriate penalty.

Therefore, their Lordships, on the manner in which the case was argued by Miss Foster, found nothing in principle wrong with the decision of the judge in making the forfeiture order, it being conceded that he had jurisdiction to make it.

On a consideration of the circumstances in which the appellant found himself, including the facts that for virtually 20 years he had shown that he could put crime behind him and had risen to a responsible position which he had lost through being made redundant and his second marriage had run into difficulties at the end of the 1970s and the beginning of 1980, and that he had served the equivalent of eight months' imprisonment, he did not need to serve the remainder.

The court substituted a sentence of nine months' imprisonment suspended for two years. Their Lordships would not have been able to take the course they had taken but for the forfeiture order.

Non-recognition of adoption not unreasonable

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Dhaban

Before Mr Justice Kennedy

[Judgment January 14]

Paragraph 50 of *Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules* (HC 169 of 1983), which recognized adoptive parents only when the adoption had occurred because of the natural parents' inability to look after the child, was neither unreasonable nor inconsistent with the Immigration Act 1971.

Mr Justice Kennedy so held in the Queen's Bench Division in dismissing an application by Mohinder Singh Dhahan for judicial review of a decision of the Secretary of State for the Home Department refusing to allow the applicant's nephew, Charanjit Singh, to come to the the United Kingdom to be adopted by him.

Mr Manjit Gill for the applicant; Mr Duncan Ouseley for the secretary of state.

MR JUSTICE KENNEDY said that in 1983 the applicant adopted the boy in India because he hoped he would become his heir and look after him in old age. The boy continued to live in India until in 1985 the applicant applied for leave for the boy to come to in the UK.

It was accepted that an Indian adoption did not, in itself, rank as an adoption for the purposes of UK law.

It was also conceded that the applicant failed the test laid down in paragraph 50 of HC 169. The boy's parents said that if he stayed in India they would look after him. The applicant's case was that the test was unreasonable in itself.

It was argued that the rules were defective because they contained no provision allowing the applicant, in the UK, to bring a child from India for the purposes of adoption and therefore did not comply with sections 1(4) and 3 of the 1971 Act.

His Lordship accepted the secretary of state's argument that there could be no complaint against the rules because they did not take into account all possible circumstances.

The applicant's second ground was that the rules were unfair and unreasonable in including only adoptions which were caused by the natural parents' inability to look after the child. The rule could exclude a child adopted *de facto* many years ago if he had not been adopted for that one reason and could therefore operate against family life.

It was argued for the secretary of state that he was entitled to draw the line somewhere and there was nothing irrational in the place where it had been drawn. His Lordship agreed.

It was politically arguable that the line was not in the correct place. It was possible that the requirement could operate in a way which was harsh. However the requirement was not unreasonable.

Solicitors: William Bache & Sons, West Bromwich; Treasury Solicitor.

RACING: AKEHURST'S HURDLER ON ATTRACTIVE MARK AT ASCOT

Chemist Broker can produce another winning performance

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Chemist Broker, from Reg Akehurst's successive Epsom stable, is my selection to win the PML Handicap Hurdle at Ascot today.

Previously trained by Peter Haynes, this New Zealand-bred eight-year-old has run only one poor race for his current handler if you consider tha. distant second to the much improved Beech Road at Cheltenham in November as a sub-standard performance.

Chemist Broker was fretting in the paddock that day, and it was not surprising to learn from the master of South Hatch that Chemist Broker was not quite right when he returned home.

Given the necessary time in which to recover, Chemist Broker stormed away with his next race at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, winning by 10 lengths, despite taking the last hurdle by the roots. He had begun the season by winning by 25 lengths at Sandown.

From those two clues, it can be deduced that his Cheltenham performance was not up to scratch. Now, with only 10st 9lb to carry, he should be very hard to beat this afternoon and I prefer his chance to that of either Ghofar or Voyant.

Josh Gifford's horses have been running well of late and **Saffron Lord** (2.35) and **Foyle Fisherman** (3.5) could turn out to be the pick of the four fancied runners from Findon.

Preferring Saffron Lord to Springholm, Neblin and Record Harvest for the Thunder and Lightning Novices' Chase is a calculated risk because he has never raced over fences whereas his principal rivals have.

I am prepared to take that chance and rely upon his undeniable ability because he was such a good jumper of hurdles.

Foyle Fisherman, my selection for the Green Highlander Handicap Chase, impressed when winning at Sandown last time when he accounted for Yahoo and Against The Grain.

Before that he had finished second on today's course to Weather The Storm who has won impressively in Ireland in the meantime.

Even on 5lb better terms, Against The Grain may not be capable of extracting his revenge since his last race at Ascot was so disappointing.

On that run alone he has little chance with Gold Bearer whose rider, Peter Scudamore, looks to have a better chance of winning the Silver Doctor Novices' Hurdle on Tiber River now that he meets Blanton Reserve on 7lb better terms than when they last clashed at Newbury 11 days ago.

Having won over two miles on the Flat for Dick Hern, Tiber River should find today's distance very much to his liking.

Necochea, ridden by Nick Gaselee's promising young claimer Andrew Adams, might be considered the form horse having beaten the subsequent Sandown winner Gilt Bronze so easily at Kempton. I still prefer Tiber River.

Adams should win the next race though on Tarn (1.35), who has been runner-up to those improved horses Mr Key and Aquilifer in his last two races.

At the end of the day many eyes will be on the Teal and Green Handicap Hurdle looking for the possible winner of the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury next month.

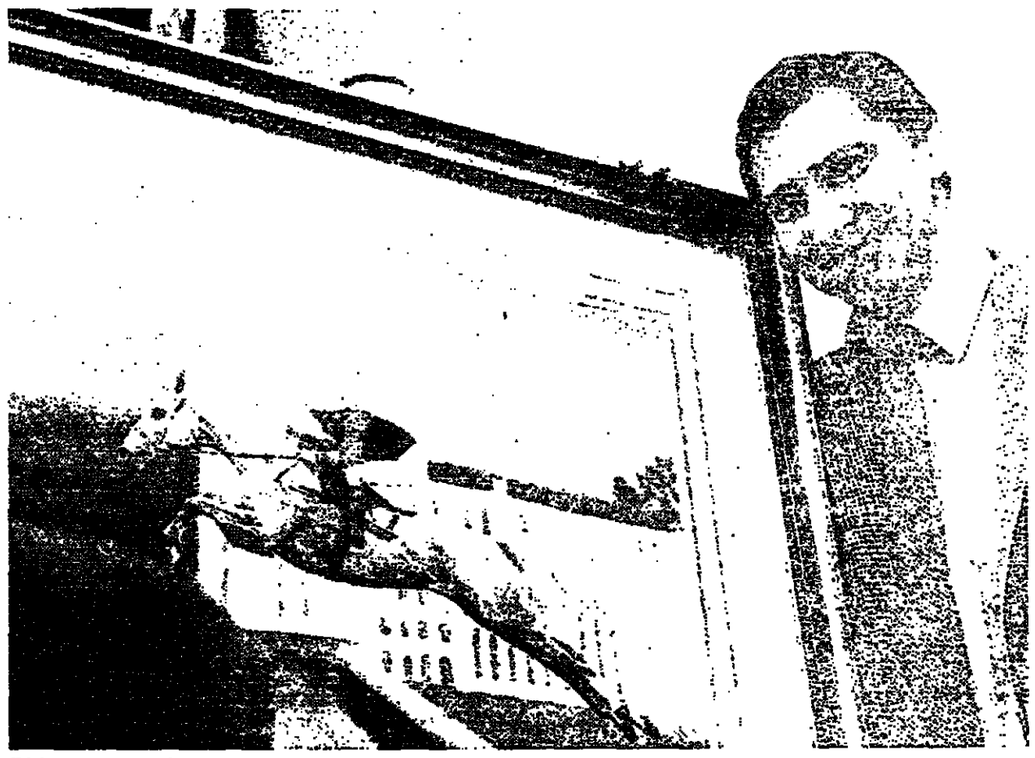
Those who lay store in horses making long journeys will be attracted to **Guisborough Town**, who is trained at Saltburn in Cleveland by Mary Reveley.

Well that he should go in this competitive race, I still regard stable companion **Brigarona** (nap) as the day's best bet to win the Product Finance Limited Novices' Chase over three miles at Edinburgh.

A very decent stayer over hurdles, he made a successful chasing debut at Kelso before running well enough behind Gurteen Wood and Mister Hartigan at Nottingham to suggest that today's prize should be at his mercy.

Scudamore booked

Champion jockey Peter Scudamore will ride top northern novice chaser City Entertainer at Ascot tomorrow in the Peter Ross Novice Chase.



Richard Burridge is presented with a painting of Desert Orchid to mark the Courage Racehorse Owners' Award for the 1986-87 National Hunt season in London yesterday (George Rae writes).

The work, by Alexander Charles-Jones, brother of the jump jockey Gareth Charles-Jones, is a powerful study of the popular grey, ridden by Colin Brown, clearing an open ditch. "David Elsworth told me three years ago that I didn't really own Desert Orchid, the public did," Burridge said. "It never ceases to amaze me the love that the racing public have for the horse.

"Perhaps, he can further endear himself to them at Ascot on Saturday, and I would recommend taking the 7-2 on offer about him in the Victor Chandler Chase."

Louis Freedman, owner of last year's Derby and King George winner Reference Point, was named Owner of the Year for the 1987 Flat season.

(Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

ASCOT

Selections

By Mandarin

1.00 Tiber River.
1.35 Tarn.
2.05 Chemist Broker.
2.35 Saffron Lord.
3.05 Foyle Fisherman.
3.40 Guisborough Town.

By Michael Seely

1.00 Tiber River. 3.05 Voyant. 3.05 **FOYLE FISHERMAN** (nap).

Going: heavy

1.0 SILVER DOCTOR NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £2,288: 2m 4f) (13 runners)

101	31	BLANTON RESERVE 11 (S) (J Collins) N Henderson 11-7	S Smith Eccles	86
102	614	BUTT AND BEN 18 (G) (Lady Aitken) F Walwyn 11-7	S Shilston	91
105	301	PERSIAN STYLE 16 (S) (P Hopkins) J Gifford 11-3	R Rowe	94
106	21	NECOCHEA 18 (D,G) (R Graham) N Gaselee 11-2	A Adams (7)	● 98
108	2	BADIHAR 16 (M Bolingbroke) D Murray-Smith 11-0	P Croucher	87
111		EXCAVATOR (J Huckle) C Tristine 11-0	J D Doyle	—
113	133801	RECORD FLIGHT 14 (S) (F Crumpler) G Ham 11-0	B Powell	86
114		ROSOGLIO (Mrs S Stones) R Simpson 11-0	S Wright	—
117	2	TIBER RIVER 11 (Mrs D Beddington) F Winter 11-0	P Scudamore	92
118		TILDEBO (Mrs D Blackburn) J Webber 11-0	G Mernagh	—
119	320	TROJAN WAR 18 (V) (R Langley) C Spares 11-0	A Carson (7)	84
120	442	THE LAST TUNE 18 (J Casey) Miss A King 10-8	A Webb	88
121	0	VESTAL FLAME 18 (P Mellon) I Balding 10-8	E Murphy	77

BETTING: 7-2 Persian Style, 4-1 Necochea, 9-2 Tiber River, 5-1 Blanton Reserve, 7-1 Butt And Benn, 10-1 Badihar, 16-1 Record Flight, The Last Tune, 20-1 others.

1987: MEETING ABANDONED — SNOW & FROST

FORM BLANTON RESERVE (11-0) acted well on the heavy ground at Newbury last time (2m 100yd, £2,183, Jan 4, 13 ran) beating TIBER RIVER (11-0) 2½l.

BUTT AND BEN (11-3) was 19l 4th to South Parade (11-3) in Grade II race at Chepstow company on latest start (2m, £5,938, soft, Dec 28, 7 ran).

PERSIAN STYLE (10-8) steps up in class following a 10l Fontwell win over Highland Bounty (11-1) (2m 2f, £986, soft, Dec 30, 17 ran).

NECOCHEA (10-6) beat subsequent Sandown winner Gilt Bronze (10-9) 6l at Kempton last time (2m 4f, £4,377, good, Dec 28, 21 ran) with VESTAL FLAME (10-4) 23l 6th.

BADIHAR (10-9) 2½l 2nd to Star Season (10-9) on Taunton debut (2m 1f, £746, soft, Dec 30, 11 ran).

RECORD FLIGHT (11-1) A 6l Devon winner (2m 1f, £991, heavy, Jan 1, 17 ran) from Saytar's Lad (10-10).

THE LAST TUNE (10-7) beaten a short head by Chantilly Lace (10-7) at Wolverhampton (2m, £865, soft, Dec 28, 17 ran).

Selection: NECOCHEA

1.35 BUCKTAIL CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,991: 2m) (8 runners)

203	3P-1422	TARN 28 (D,F,G,S) (S Harrap) N Gaselee 10-11-10	A Adams (5)	98
204	F402-11	KAMIR 20 (D,F,G,S) (F Brown) K Morgan 8-11-8	J Osborne	97
205	FF33-P4	ALDRO 20 (D,G,S) (P Riley) W Clay 12-11-8	Diane Clay (7)	90
207	P04400	ST WILLIAM 17 (CD,F,G,S) (W Moreconha) R Hodges 11-11-1	W Irvine (7)	● 89
208	02003P	RIVER RHEIN 28 (D,F,G,S) (A Reason) B McMath 11-10-10	T Woolley (7)	87
209	P0-0231	TOM CAXTON 17 (D,G,S) (M O'Connor) J King 7-10-6	C Llewellyn	83
210	0-04423	MANSTON MARAUDER 14 (D,BF,F,G,S) (M Smith) P Hedger 12-10-6	I Shoemark (5)	93
213	042-F02	GREEN RIDGE 55 (Unicol Group Holdings Ltd) S Mellor 9-10-0	S Cowley (7)	91

BETTING: 11-4 Kamir, 7-2 Tom Caxton, 4-1 Tarn, 7-1 Manston Marauder, 10-1 St William, River Rhein, 12-1 Aldro, 14-1 Green Ridge.

FORM TARN (10-13) 4l 2nd to Mr Key (10-5) at Lingfield (2m, £1,921, heavy, Dec 18, 7 ran).

KAMIR (10-13) beat Valentinos Joy (10-6) 10l at Market Rasen (2m, £1,836, soft, Dec 28, 8 ran).

ALDRO (11-1) 24l 4th to Larry-O (10-1) at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, £3,954, good, Dec 28, 7 ran).

ST WILLIAM (11-10) below best when 19l 5th to Auntie Dot (11-9) at Stratford (2m, £2,392, good to soft, Dec 29, 14 ran).

TOM CAXTON (11-5) beat MANSTON MARAUDER (11-10) ¾l at Plumpton (2m, £1,991, heavy, Dec 29, 7 ran).

GREEN RIDGE (10-10) ¾l 2nd to Profound (10-5) at Folkestone (2m 4f, £1,980, soft, Nov 21, 10 ran).

Selection: KAMIR

2.5 PML HANDICAP HURDLE (£8,220: 3m) (17 runners)

302	16F-221	KING'S COLLEGE BOY 18 (G,S) (H Thomson) Mrs M Dickinson 10-11-10	G Bradley	92
303	1F2F98	MRS MUCK 27 (CD,G,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-9	P Scudamore	● 99
304	0-33432	GHOFAR 20 (BF,G) (D Taffner) D Elsworth 5-11-1	C Brown	88
305	0/0F0-04	KRISTENSON 27 (C,F,G,S) (J Coward) R Fisher 11-11-1	S Smith Eccles	88
306	300-014	EMO FOREVER 18 (B,D,S) (A McCluskey) M H Easterby 8-11-1	L Wyer	90
307	43/0F-11	VOYANT 15 (D,F,G,S) (T Wragg) S Christian 9-10-10	R Beggan	92
309	000-401	MY DOMINION 18 (C,F,G,S) (T Ramsden) R Simpson 8-10-9	G McCourt	96
311	004-121	CHEMIST BROKER 28 (D,F,G,S) (Food Brokers Ltd) R Akehurst 8-10-9	I Shoemark (7)	95
312	043013	GILT FUTURE 38 (S) (Woodway Plant Ltd) D Wintle 6-10-6	S Knightley	90
313	800-F01	TACHADOR 20 (S) (P Axon) R Hodges 7-10-4	H Davies	87
314	010222-	ANAGMOR'S DAUGHTER 272 (S) (A Reason) K Bishop 7-10-2	S Earle	97
315	B-00012	RUBY FLIGHT 62 (S) (R Eckley) R Eckley 6-10-2	D Tegg (7)	90
316	11F2-01	TROUVERE 28 (G,S) (R Thorne) D Wintle 7-10-0	S Corbett (7)	92
317	0P-0042	GALLANT BUCK 20 (B,S) (J Stott) D Elsworth 8-10-0	S Conlon (7)	92
318	3-02F22	WOLLOW WILL 11 (F,G,S) (F Winter) F Winter 9-10-0	—	—
319	01P-232	FIRST ROMANCE 41 (G) (Queen Mother) F Walwyn 6-10-0	A Mulholland (7)	82
320	0-2000	NIMO VOLADOR 28 (S) (P Bradley) W Clay 7-10-0	Diane Clay (7)	88

BETTING: 5-1 Chemist Broker, 6-1 Ghofar, Voyant, 15-2 Mrs Muck, 8-1 Kings College Boy, My Dominion, 10-1 Ruby Flight, 11-1 Gallant Buck, 12-1 Emo Forever, 14-1 others.

FORM KINGS COLLEGE BOY (11-10) a 6l winner from Harbour Bazaar (10-1) at Wetherby (3m, £3,840, soft, Dec 28, 9 ran) with fellow Northern raider EMO FOREVER (11-6) 4½l 4th.

GHOFAR (11-8) was favourite last time when beaten 8l by Hooray Henry (11-10) in a handicap at Wincanton (2m 6f, £3,448, good to soft, Dec 28, 11 ran).

EMO FOREVER (11-0) beat RUBY FLIGHT (10-4) 3l at Cheltenham on penultimate start (3m1f, £4,882, soft, Nov 14, 10 ran).

VOYANT (11-7) was back to his very best at Cheltenham last time (3m, £1,568, good to soft, Dec 31, 14 ran) when beating High Performance (10-13) 3l.

MY DOMINION (10-10) employed usual front running tactics when a 2l winner from It's A Pry (10-1) at Kempton (2m 4f, £2,283, good, Dec 28, 10 ran).

CHEMIST BROKER (10-2) easily beat GALLANT BUCK (10-0) 10l at Kempton (3m, £3,132, good, Dec 26, 11 ran) and may have more improvement to come.

TROUVERE (10-6), despite mistakes at the last two fights, beat Highland Cardinal (10-0) 6l at Fakenham on latest run (3m, £2,303, soft, Dec 18, 9 ran).

Selection: GHOFAR

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 0-0432 TIMESFORM 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ..... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F-fell. P-pulled up. U-unseated rider. B-brought down. S-slipped up. R-refused). Horse's name. Days since last outing. (B-blinkers. V-visor. H-hood. E-Eyeshield. C-course winner. D-distance winner. CD-course and distance winner. BF-beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F-firm, good to firm, hard. G-good. S-soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.35 THUNDER & LIGHTNING NOVICES CHASE (£9,804: 2m) (7 runners)

401	F11132	SPRINGHOLM 14 (D,G,S) (Brig C Harvey) D Nicholson 6-11-8	R Beggan	89
402	P4-3430	AMRULLAH 27 (T Thom) J Bridger 8-11-5	G Moore	79
403	3212-03	DICTALINO 16 (BF) (Mrs P Four) F Winter 7-11-5	P Scudamore	74
404	4-3U331	NEBLIN 14 (F,C,S) (A Leather) G Balding 9-11-5	R Guest	● 98
405	0U-11F2	RECORD HARVEST 34 (D,G,S) (Lt-Col R Warden) M H Easterby 7-11-5	L Wyer	94
406	F01-124	SAFFRON LORD 15 (F,G,S) (J Holmes) J Gifford 6-11-5	R Rowe	—
407	002212	SASSANOCO 14 (V,BF,F,G,S) (C Andrews) K Bailey 7-11-5	P Croucher	83

BETTING: 11-4 Saffron Lord, 3-1 Record Harvest, 4-1 Neblin, 5-1 Springholm, 10-1 Dictalino, 12-1 Sassanoco, 16-1 Amrullah.

FORM SPRINGHOLM (11-7) was far from disgraced to finish 4l 2nd to prolific winner Private Views (11-11) at Cheltenham (2m, £3,231, good to soft, Jan 1, 3 ran).

DICTALINO (11-4) stayed on to be 10¾l 3rd to Bespoke (11-4) at Warwick (2m, £2,507, soft, Dec 30, 16 ran).

NEBLIN (11-10) finally won his first race over fences when beating Super Express (10-8) 5l at Devon (2m 1f, £2,082, heavy, Jan 1, 7 ran).

RECORD HARVEST (11-8), from a stable with a good strike rate here, ran a respectable 4l 2nd to Prideaux Boy (11-4) at Doncaster last time (2m 150yd, £6,653, good to firm, Dec 12, 6 ran).

SAFFRON LORD makes fencing debut following some top class hurdling runs including (11-4) a 5l 2nd to Osric (10-8) here in December (2m, £5,254, good to soft, Dec 19, 7 ran).

SASSANOCO (10-12) finished 4l 2nd to Ballyhane (11-2) at Sandown in December (2m 18yd, £4,441, good, Dec 5, 8 ran) with AMRULLAH (10-12) 4l 3rd.

Selection: RECORD HARVEST

3.5 GREEN HIGHLANDER HANDICAP CHASE (£7,505: 3m) (7 runners)

502	41-2330	AGAINST THE GRAIN 27 (D,BF,G,S) (H Shouler) D Nicholson 7-11-10	S Smith Eccles	94
503	211-221	FOYLE FISHERMAN 41 (C,D,G,S) (J Hutchinson) J Gifford 9-11-6	R Rowe	93
505	321-242	GOLD BEARER 27 (G,S) (Lady Joseph) F Winter 8-11-2	P Scudamore	● 98
507	1F33-43	BURAINNPOUR 49 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Weinstein) G Balding 8-11-0	G Bradley	93
508	U22F1/3-	ARCTIC STREAM 440 (F,G,S) (W Whitbread) F Walwyn 9-10-11	K Mooney	—
509	1214-40	GREENBANK PARK 18 (F,G,S) (R Perkins) S Christian 11-10-11	R Beggan	98
510	23F21P	CASTLE ANDREA 20 (G,S) (D Jeffries) D Jeffries 10-10-0	M Jenkins	86

BETTING: 5-2 Foyle Fisherman, 100-30 Gold Bearer, 7-2 Burrannpour, 4-1 Against The Grain, 10-1 Greenbank Park, 14-1 Arctic Stream, 20-1 Castle Andrea.

FORM FOYLE FISHERMAN (11-1) beat Yahoo (11-3) 2l at Sandown (3m 118yd, £4,644, good, Dec 5), with AGAINST THE GRAIN (11-10) ¾l behind last of 3.

GOLD BEARER (10-3) 6l 2nd to Cavvies Clown (10-11) over this course and distance (£14,964, good to soft, Dec 19, 12 ran), with AGAINST THE GRAIN (10-12) 10l behind 5th.

BURAINNPOUR (12-5) never recovered from a 13th fence blunder when 15½l 3rd to Channel Breeze (10-0) at Newbury (3m, £2,461, good, Nov 27, 4 ran).

ARCTIC STREAM (11-10) was 40l 3rd to Course Hunter (10-12) at Sandown (3m 118yd, £2,794, good, Nov 1988, 4 ran).

CASTLE ANDREA (10-3), on penultimate start, beat Golden Minstrel (11-10) 1l at Towcester (3m 190yd, £2,683, good, Dec 12, 7 ran), with GREENBANK PARK (11-5) 22l behind 4th.

Selection: GOLD BEARER

3.40 TEAL & GREEN HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,454: 2m) (17 runners)

601	9-11102	BEECH ROAD 14 (G,S) (T Gaske) G Balding 6-12-3	A Charlton (7)	92
602	F2F10-3	CORPORAL CLINGER 15 (F,G,S) (Jay Dee Racing Ltd) M Pipe 9-12-1	J Lower	88
603	3110-0	PROTECTION 84 (D,G) (H Jost) A Turnell 6-11-3	Steve Knight	85
605	4/2F12-4	BUCK UP 18 (D,G,S) (Lt-Col R Warden) M H Easterby 5-10-11	L Wyer	91
606	11180-4	INTUITION 76 (D,S) (A Spence) R Akehurst 5-10-11	Dale McKeown	89
608	21-0122	CHASING THE DRAGON 13 (B,D,BF,S) (Skeltools Ltd) O Sherwood 5-10-11	C Cox	90
609	110-023	BROOKMOUNT 20 (D,F,S) (H Pelham) J Gifford 6-10-7	R Rowe	93
610	00/000-0	JAMESMEAD 15 (CD,S) (D Allen) D Elsworth 7-10-6	G Bradley	● 99
611	123/400-	BRUNICO 283 (D,G,S) (T Ramsden) R Simpson 8-10-5	G McCourt	89
614	0111-F	CANFORD PALM 55 (CD,G,S) (Mrs M Cobham) F Winter 7-10-4	P Scudamore	92
615	F4-0312	GUISBOROUGH TOWN 18 (D,BF,F,S) (Miss E Curtis) Mrs G Reveley 8-10-2	N Smith (7)	97
616	021-010	ADMIRALS ALL 18 (D,BF,G,S) (Mrs H Ryan Price) F Winter 5-10-0	NON—RUNNER	—
617	0/3-0000	SOLAR CLOUD 14 (B,D,G,S) (B Brooks) D Nicholson 5-10-0	W Humphreys (4)	—
619	130-004	BIGEE 18 (D,F,G,S) (P Kearney) J Sayers 7-10-0	H Davies	92
620	2-23004	DETROIT SAM 13 (D,F) (A Sotraniou) M Francis 7-10-0	S McNeill	94
622	04-0011	MENINGI 14 (D,F,G,S) (H Perry) K Bishop 7-10-0 (4ex)	S Earle	95
623	0131-00	SOHAIL 17 (D,F,S) (Mrs E Gittins) C Holmes 5-10-0	C Llellyn (4)	83

BETTING: 9-2 Beech Road, 6-1 Corporal Clinger, 7-1 Protection, 8-1 Guisborough Town, 10-1 Buck Up, Canford Palm, 11-1 Brookmount, 12-1 Chasing The Dragon, 14-1 Intuition, 16-1 others.

FORM BEECH ROAD (11-4) was 6l 2nd to Celtic Shot (11-4) at Windsor (2m 30yd, £14,148, good to soft, Jan 1, 10 ran).

CORPORAL CLINGER (11-8) 12l 3rd to Swingit Gunner (11-4) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £2,392, good to soft, Dec 31, 5 ran) with JAMESMEAD (11-0) 21l behind in 5th.

INTUITION (11-10) 26l 4th to Celtic Shot (10-7) at Sandown (2m, £3,272, good to soft, Oct 31, 9 ran).

CHASING THE DRAGON (11-7) 5l 2nd to Tivian (11-0) at Newbury (2m 100yd, £4,979, heavy, Jan 2, 7 ran) with DETROIT SAM (11-1) 2¾l behind in 4th.

GUISBOROUGH TOWN (11-2) 6l 2nd to Happy Bread (10-0) at Wetherby (2m, £3,522, soft, Dec 28, 10 ran) with BUCK UP (11-10) just over 6l behind in 4th.

ADMIRALS ALL (10-1) best judged on a short head beating of Molojac (10-11) at Cheltenham (2m 4f, £3,939, good, Dec 12, 10 ran) with BEECH ROAD (12-1) behind in a below par 9th.

Selection: CORPORAL CLINGER

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
M H Easterby	7	19	36.8
J Webber	4	15	26.7
S Christian	3	12	25.0
R Hodges	4	20	20.0
D Elsworth	10	51	19.6
F Walwyn	7	36	19.4

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
G Bradley	5	20	25.0
K Mooney	7	30	23.3
C Cox	3	13	23.1
S Smith Eccles	9	49	18.4
C Brown	9	56	16.1
P Scudamore	12	75	16.0

Cavvies Clown steals show with front-running tactics

Cavvies Clown came out an emphatic six lengths in front of Ten Plus when the two Gold Cup entries clashed in the John Bull Steeplechase at Wincanton yesterday.

The tactics planned by leading trainer David Elsworth worked like clockwork. The fast accurate jumping and the strong pace set by Cavvies Clown eventually forced the favourite Ten Plus into a very expensive mistake five from home that decided the issue.

Cavvies Clown is now down as low as 8-1 for the Cheltenham Gold Cup while Ten Plus has eased out to 12-1 and 14-1 with most bookmakers.

Elsworth, who thought that Cavvies Clown did his job very professionally, stated: "He'll definitely be entered for the Cheltenham Gold Cup. I just wish he was a bit bigger and looked a bit more like a Gold Cup horse.

"He stays very well, but I just feared they might do him for speed today so we had to make the running. He jumped very well and never missed. He's on a high at the moment, like Rhyme 'N' Reason, and both are entered for the Vincent O'Brien Irish Gold Cup on February 13, but I'm not making decisions about that at the moment."

Cavvies Clown was a lucky chance ride for Graham Bradley, deputising for the injured Ross Arnott, who also missed a good winning ride on Rhyme 'N' Reason at Sandown last Saturday.

Ten Plus is currently handicapped 17lb below Cavvies Clown, but the two were meeting at level weights yesterday so connections of the runner-up were far from disheartened.

Kevin Mooney told Cath Walwyn that he felt Ten Plus was going like a winner and better than Cavvies Clown until he "absolutely bellied the open ditch."

Mrs Walwyn said: "We're quite pleased with him, he's still just got to learn about jumping fences at speed. The winner is much more experienced and jumps brilliantly. Ten Plus was also very slow to learn when he started over hurdles. Today will have taught him a few lessons, I hope. He's entered for a semi-novices' race at Cheltenham on the 30th."

Fulke Walwyn stayed at home but he hopes to have his first day out since his Cheltenham collapse, at Ascot today. The Lambourn trainer was given an account of yesterday's race over the telephone.

Walwyn has frequently warned that Ten Plus is not a certain Gold Cup runner. He will also be entered for the Cathcart Chase and the National Hunt Handicap Chase.

The Ten Plus connections quickly went one better, True Spark finishing like a train to snatch the first division of the Spettisbury Novices' Hurdle by a head from Barry Window on the line.

Mrs Walwyn commented: "I've always loved this horse and he's going to make a chaser.

Six disqualified after taking wrong course

Chaos reigned after the Syerston Selling Hurdle at Southwell yesterday when several horses took the wrong course.

Royal Special, who finished first past the post, was one of the offenders and was disqualified following a stewards' inquiry.

The runners were competing over a new course for the first time and it appeared that some jockeys had ignored the stewards' advice to walk the course beforehand.

Six runners took the wrong route after jumping two flights, including the favourite, Mrs Peopleater, who was pulled up, and Royal Special was taken with them.

Royal Special and Austhorpe Sunset took the last flight together and George Knight got his mount up on the line by a short head.

Conditional jockey Ger Lyons, on Austhorpe Sunset, rode by no means a vigorous finish, certain that his rival would be demotedfor taking the wrong course, and he was right.

Austhorpe Sunset was awarded the race with Dohty Baby promoted to second and Havrin Princess third.

Knight said: "The sun was very bad out there. We really could not see going into the turn, but I realised the horse in front had gone the wrong way. I was shouting to the jockey on my outside not to follow, but he did so and took me with him."

Norwegian triumphant again

Norwegian champion Tony Frick had his second winner in this country when partnering Vaguely Artistic, the 9-4 favourite, to victory in the Thorpe Handicap Chase at Southwell.

It was the 30-year-old Scandanavian's first ride in Britain since he scored on Broad Beam at Cheltenham in 1985. He will be staying in this country until January 25.

Vaguely Artistic, sporting distinctive green blinkers, cruised up to Another Half going into the last obstacle and quickly took his measure to win by threequarters of a length.

Woodbridge permit holder Geoffrey Hubbard pointed out: "Vaguely Artistic does not like to be in front too soon." He bought the grey privately after he had been claimed out of a Huntingdon seller.

Frick said: "It was the first time I had ridden the course and I enjoyed the experience." This talented rider has won the jumping title four times in Norway, where he rides as first jockey to leading trainer Terry Dahl.

Griffin waits a year for Cheltenham

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Having shared a horse-box to Gowran Park yesterday morning, Feltrim Hill Lad, trained by Paddy Griffin and Jim Draper's Sound Judgement finished first and second respectively in the Goffs Thyestes Handicap Chase, run in very heavy ground over an extended three miles.

Another Brownie tried to lead all the way and put up a very game display over a distance that is really too far for him.

He was still in the lead going to the final fence, but looming up was the challenge of Feltrim Hill Lad and, having touched down in front, he ploughed on through the mud to win by three lengths.

Sound Judgement came late on the scene to deprive Another Brownie of second place.

This time last year Feltrim Hill Lad had yet to run over fences, but in the intervening 12 months he has scored four times. Even so, Griffin does not intend to enter him at Cheltenham this year.

"I would like him to have another year's experience over fences before going there," said Paddy. "For the time being I will be content to aim him at two big home handicaps, the Leopardstown Chase and the Irish Grand National."

EDINBURGH

Selections

By Mandarin

12.45 Al Shamikh.
1.15 BRIGARONA (nap).
1.45 Albion Place.
2.15 Joint Sovereignty.
2.45 Highfrith.
3.15 Raisabillion.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.45 **HECKLEY LOCK.**

Going: good to firm (chase course); good (hurdles)

12.45 BIRCHALL LEASING MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £1,182: 2m) (15 runners)

1		ALPHA HELIX (J Richard) T Craig 5-11-9	N Doughty	—
2	3	AL SHAMIKH 20 (C Barber-Lomax) W Elsey 5-11-9	J J Quinn	● 99
4	U	BAY MINSTREL 28 (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 5-11-9	Mr A Costello (7)	—
5	0-2	BOUTZDAROFF 39 (M Wrigley) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-9	M Dwyer	94
6	2-00	BUSHIDO 28 (G Politakis) J S Wilson 5-11-9	C Grant	96
7	2-00	BUSHIDO 28 (G Politakis) J S Wilson 5-11-9	M Alston (7)	84
10	400-420	EASTERN OASIS 104 (J Andrews) J Andrews 5-11-9	R Marley (4)	95
11	3F0234	GREEN TOPS 27 (K Hanson) M Avison 5-11-9	G Harker	—
15	000/0-	PRUDENT BOY 443 (G MacFall) J H Johnson 5-11-9	B Ellison	—
18	00	THE HILCOTE CLUB 63 (G Northage) R Woodhouse 5-11-9	P Niven	—
19		GREEN APPLE 241 (J Mernagh) Mrs G Reveley 7-11-4	M Hill	—
23	P	GOTHIC FORD 39 (P Muldoon) S Muldoon 4-10-12	D Dutton	—
25	00	NORTON MELODY 39 (Major J Lisley) M H Easterby 4-10-12	P Tuck	—
26		QUASSIBI (G Richards) G Richards 4-10-12	M Hammond	93
28	0	SALACITY 8 (C Anderson) G Moore 4-10-12	—	—
30	0000	STEGILLY 29 (Dufell Roofing Co Ltd) A Brown 4-10-7	—	—

BETTING: 11-4 Al Shamikh, 3-1 Boutzdaroff, 7-2 Salacity, 9-2 Green Tops, 13-2 Bushido, 12-1 Bay Minstrel, 20-1 Eastern Oasis, 25-1 others.

1987: MEETING ABANDONED — SNOW AND FROST

1.15 PRODUCT FINANCE LTD NOVICES CHASE (£1,209: 3m) (10 runners)

2	10P1-13	BRIGARONA 27 (D,F,G,S) (A Pannigan) Mrs G Reveley 7-12-0	P Niven	● 99
3	301F0-0	CROIX DE GUERRE 18 (G,S) (J Shaw) C J Bell 7-11-7	M Dwyer	—
4	0042-	ETERNAL CREDIT 46 (G) (Mrs E Fisher) R Fisher 8-11-7	A Merrigan (4)	—
5	PP0U03	INVISIBLE THREE 15 (W Stephenson) W A Stephenson 6-11-7	Mr J Dun	—
8	4P0F/0-3	NELSONS BEACH 13 (J Dunn) G Dun 10-11-7	C Grant	—
10	P02PF	NIGHT MAGIC 15 (J Walby) W A Stephenson 8-11-7	J Hansen	94
11	20-3023	PADDY HAYTON 8 (Mrs M Wares) S Leadbetter 7-11-7	B Ellison	—
14	04204F/	SIDVIC 818 (C Colquhoun) R Woodhouse 9-11-7	S Storey	92
15	FUF0-P2	GOODFELLOW'S FOLLY 15 (S Watson) I Jordon 10-11-2	B Walsh (4)	—
17	1U013/0	RIGTON SALLY 20 (F,G) (Mrs I Watford) H Wharton 8-11-2	B Walsh (4)	—

BETTING: 11-10 Brigarona, 7-2 Croix de Guerre, 6-1 Goodfellow's Folly, 10-1 Paddy Hayton, Eternal Credit, 16-1 Rigton Sally, 20-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent
C Elsey	1	1	100.0
T Barron	1	2	50.0
Denys Smith	3	9	33.3
C Bell	2	6	33.3
G Moore	2	7	28.6
J G Wilson	2	9	22.2

JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
M Dwyer	3	10	30.0
M Hammond	3	10	30.0
C Dennis	2	7	28.6
C Grant	4	17	23.5
B Storey	2	9	22.2
P Niven	5	19	15.8

1.45 BIRCHALL LEASING CLAIMING HURDLE (4-Y-O: £915: 2m) (15 runners)

1	3P01	ALBION PLACE 27 (B,D,S) (J Hepburn) A Brown 11-7	D Dutton	91
4	00	HUNTER'S LEAP 50 (J Lishman) G Moore 11-7	M Hammond	—
5	000	JEFF HARRIS 27 (Lt Col W Monteith) P Monteith 11-7	D Nolan	—
6	000	LIGHTFALL 25 (A Munro (Electrical Contractor) Ltd) R Allan 11-7	N Doughty	82
7	00	MUSICK 18 (Full Circle Thoroughbreds D Plc) N Tinkler 11-7	P Tuck	84
8	00P4	TREBONKERS 8 (Mrs C Richard) T Craig 11-7	C Grant	87
9	004	UNDERSHAFT 27 (S) (H Watson) N Bycroft 11-3	P Niven	77
10	0	ONLY JOKING 18 (W Elsey) W Elsey 11-2	J J Quinn	—
12	400303	NIGHT VISITOR 20 (W Sellers) J Parkes 10-11	S Cunningham (7)	91
15		DOLITINO (Miss Z Green) Miss Z Green 10-6	J O'Gorman (7)	—
16	0303	HECKLEY LOCH 8 (R Grant) T Barron 10-6	G Harker	● 99
17	00P	POWER OF LOVE 46 (C Booth) C Booth 10-6	R Marley (4)	—
19	0P00	GEMMA'S SONG 14 (P Quinn) J Parkes 10-4	C Hawkins	—
20	6200	LOMA BREEZE 8 (J James) D Moffatt 10-4	C Dennis (7)

England's management team play off each other in their build-up to Rugby Union's five-nations day

New Model army to face the French

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Since the Welsh selectors are traditionally nicknamed the Big Five, there is an irresistible temptation to label England's new selection panel the Three Wise Men, largely because they came together over the Christmas period. No disrespect is intended to Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, Roger Uttley, his assistant coach, and John Elliott, co-selector; indeed, for long-suffering England supporters it would be a pleasure to see the soubriquet proved correct.

But time has been their enemy as they prepare for England's first, and possibly greatest, test of this domestic season: against France at the Parc des Princes tomorrow. They have selected a side for the trial this month, seen it lose in somewhat outlandish conditions, remodelled it for the French and spent one weekend and a couple of sessions this week working on it.

This, of course, against the most settled side in the five nations. Cooke, Uttley and Elliott have barely had time to discuss their respective philosophies towards the game; indeed, during an all-too-brief question-and-answer session, Cooke admitted it was the first time they had sat down together to philosophize about the game rather than overcome immediate problems.

It may be no coincidence that all three men have to do with communication during their business careers: Cooke is the Leeds City Council sports development officer, Uttley a geography teacher at Harrow, Elliott the head of the East Midlands Electricity Board's development and marketing branch. Thus all of them can cope with both the man-management and the public relations aspects of their "hobby."

Of the trio only one, Uttley, played international rugby and the definition of their respective roles is as good a place to begin as any:

Cooke: Clearly, I carry the ultimate responsibility. John's role has been as a co-selector. Once Roger became involved there was a clear division in terms of coaching, forwards and backs. The gratifying thing is that we are not a million miles apart in our ideas about the game. Our relationship is going to evolve during the next few weeks.

Elliott: A lot of the job is getting to know what Roger wants, what Geoff wants and getting the players to fit into that pattern. What you don't want is two coaches and 15 lads who *don't* know what they want.

Uttley: It's quite useful, too, to have someone standing back a little, as John is, so we can use him as a sounding-board.

Cooke: It's essential to have someone of Roger's international background. If he had played 20 years ago it would have been irrelevant but it's invaluable to have one of his background, who has been there and done it, and the lads appreciate it.

Elliott: You're talking about getting lads away from home and preparing them and Roger's gone through all that [England players of the late Seventies will testify to Uttley's reassuring presence as captain during the build-up to internationals]. I'm sure players, some of them, are mentally exhausted by Saturday morning because they are not used to using free time properly.

Tomorrow brings the first match of an international season which will end in Australia in June and incorporates seven internationals, five at home (two against Ireland) and two on tour in Australia, plus three B internationals:

Cooke: The initial target is to win every game and I'll be disappointed if we don't do this. Having said that, you have an eye for the future and the long-term work you do with players, but you still have to go out and achieve the short-term objectives. If you lose the first game it's not the end of the world. Australia will be different because it will give us an opportunity to be more forward-thinking.

Elliott: You can plan in retrospect. You have to take one game at a time.

Cooke: I want to involve all 15 players so that each of them feels they have an important role to play on the field. We have to maximize the ability of each individual player. I want to create a situation where people *enjoy* playing for England.

It has been suggested that the gap in playing standards between the home countries and the southern hemisphere nations and France is growing wider:

Cooke: We can't bridge the gap with the southern hemisphere because of the different attitudes of people to the game. We have to accept that. We can influence attitudes to some extent but we have problems in this country with the players to whom rugby is just *part* of their lives. It may be an important part but for a New Zealander rugby *is* his life, part of the national way of life, so the whole ethos of the game builds up the status of the player. Sometimes people here have scorn poured upon them if they are thought to be enthusiastic and dedicated because it's thought to be not quite English. We are not starting from the same base as some nations.

Uttley: France are different because of the element of professionalism [in terms of the coaching available] and the incentive given players to get involved, the prestigious jobs they get which ensures they have time to train. There is also the question of attitude. Our lads have got to be inculcated in the same manner.

Cooke: In terms of ball-handling skills we are just as good.

Uttley: New Zealanders can't believe we have so many talented players around. When you look at some of the players who have become All Blacks. . .some of them are quite ordinary players. But they are quite clear in their own minds what they have to do to achieve their ends. The image of England players is of a guy arriving at a lineout with no sense of urgency, whereas the All Blacks are looking to see what is on next. When you talk about New Zealand rugby you are talking about rucking the ball. We are not so single-minded. We think we are capable of doing different things. New Zealand play a pressure game.

Cooke: The All Blacks play the same way right through their system. Players know what is expected of them. It's the dynamic way they do things that makes the difference. A lot of it comes back to fitness, pace, power. Things happen at such a rate. In this country it's different. We produce schools players in a classic mould and when they move into club rugby there is a divergence about how they should play. It's not easy to create a national style, it's a very long-term process. What we are trying to do is create an impression of an effective way of playing the game, getting a concept from the national side down.

Uttley: We must heighten awareness of what is necessary, how players need to think, how they move about the field.

Cooke: We can't afford to abrogate responsibility for improving techniques. We have to help players improve as individuals and in doing that we will improve team performance.

Uttley: Then you come back to the time question. The selection meeting for the trial teams started at 10 in the morning and we didn't come out until seven in the evening. And we worked through lunch. We had a divisional meeting in the morning, then we went on to pick the teams. That staggered me, the amount of time people give to considering who goes where.

Elliott: The amount of preparation is enormous, at divisional level, too. *The divisional selectors* worked very hard and we have to be fair to them and not impose.

Cooke: We asked the divisional chairmen and coaches if they felt they should have more influence and the answer was no. They respected the fact that they were being allowed to pick their own teams. That gave us some minor frustration but, on balance, you expect that. But if this pattern persists I can see a day where there may be a full-time team manager for the national side because of the influence that person can have on the game. My biggest problem is one of time. It limits you even in the amount of thinking you can give to the game.

Uttley: There is no doubt about the amount of time involved and ultimately, I think, professional coaching will come in — in the same way the Rugby Football Union have developed their technical administrators who are involved full-time in the development of the game *per se*. I think it's inevitable because the demands upon coaches throughout the game are enormous.

Elliott: The structure we have developed now for England selection has gradually evolved from the strengthening divisional selection process and it will follow that you use that more. Geoff and I have found a depth of knowledge in all the divisions where they can tell us far more about players.

Cooke: There are two distinct parts to the process. There is early screening, a filtering to get us to the trial situation, where a large number of people are involved. But once you get to that position, the fewer people involved the better.

Uttley: My generation of players would have benefited from the system we now have. When I think of some of the situations people got themselves into . . . there was a classic one in France when hookers and stand-offs were in and out like yo-yos. That was horrendous and should never have been allowed.



The Three Wise Men who are searching an overcast English sky for stars: Elliott, Cooke and Uttley (Photograph: Julian Herbert)

JOHN ELLIOTT
(England selector)

BORN: 10.6.43 in Nottingham.
EDUCATED: High Pavement School, Loughborough Colleges.
JOB: Head of market development and advertising, East Midlands Electricity Board.
RUGBY CAREER: Hooker for Old Paviors, Leicester, Nottingham. Represented the North against the RFU President's XV in 1970-71. England replacement 1976. Coach to Notts, Lincs and Derbys when they reached 1979 semi-final. Midland divisional selector 1981 to 1986. Appointed national selector October 1987.

GEOFF COOKE
(England team manager)

BORN: 11.6.41 in Carlisle.
EDUCATED: Carlisle GS.
JOB: Sports development officer for Leeds City Council.
RUGBY CAREER: Played stand-off half or centre with Bradford and Cumberland. Captained club and county. Secretary and subsequently coach to Bradford. Yorkshire coach for five years. Divisional selector 1979 to 1986, team manager to the North 1986-87. Appointed national team manager October 1987.

ROGER UTTLEY
(England assistant coach)

BORN: 11.9.49 in Blackpool.
EDUCATED: Blackpool GS.
JOB: Master at Harrow School.
RUGBY CAREER: Lock, No. 8 or flanker with Gosforth, Wasps and Northumberland. Toured the Far East with England in 1971. Capped in 1973, toured South Africa with the unbeaten British Lions in 1974, selected for 1977 Lions but withdrew because of injury. 23 caps, the last of them in 1980, England's grand slam season. Coach to the London Division 1985-87. Appointed assistant national coach December 1987.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Hutton is taking a pragmatic approach

By Keith Macklin

Colin Hutton, the chairman of Hull Kingston Rovers, is renowned as one of the game's softly-spoken gentlemen, yet even he has surprised many people this week by his response to the local council's decision to veto the club's plans to move to a new ground.

Rovers, having agreed to sell Craven Park to a supermarket chain for £4 million, were on the verge of completing negotiations for the purchase of a new site in East Hull. Then the local council's planning committee turned down the request.

The decision ended four months of negotiations and planning by Rovers and virtually scuppered their hopes of starting next season at a new home.

Hutton said: "I attended the council meeting and I can understand the decision. It was argued that the land should be retained for future industrial development, and we have no argument against that. In fact, I left the meeting with the firm impression that the council sympathized with our position, and will do everything possible to help us."

Rovers have been forced to sell their compact ground because of safety legislation which would have crippled the club financially. The offer from the supermarket chain was seen as a life-saver when Rovers' officials were beginning to sound *the death knell for the Robins.*

Hutton said: "It is a big disappointment for us not to be able to start next season with a new ground, but we have been offered several other sites in east Hull, by both the local council and the county council, and once we have chosen one of them we will surely be able to open up in 1988-89."

Rovers' plans are extremely ambitious. Their proposed new home will house not only a Rugby League ground, but a multi-sports centre which can be used eventually by the general public.

Hutton, who has spent 30 years at Craven Park as coach, general manager, club director and chairman, is unhappy at the prospect of leaving Craven Park. But, practical as ever, he admitted: "It is inevitable."

HOCKEY

Difficulty indoors for Lions

By Sydney Friskin

The indoor game comes more into its own this weekend when British teams will compete in the HDM tournament at The Hague and the Birmingham Midshires tournament, both starting today.

England, playing as the Lions, face a daunting task at The Hague against Poland and the host club, Haagsche Delfise Mixed (HDM). Stiffer opposition in the form of the Blue Devils, of France, and Berlin, follows. At the Cocks Moors Woods Leisure Centre, Birmingham, England B should *finish on top of* Pool A *in which* they will play against the under-21 sides of England, France and Wales.

The Hockey Association's decision to select the five teams from the premier division of the Pizza Express London League for next year's National League first division from the standings on March 31 this year, has put Southgate in a quandary.

After meeting Teddington tomorrow at the New River Stadium at White Hart Lane, they have three home matches, against Guildford on February 13, Richmond on February 27, and Reading on March 6, all of which will clash with Great Britain training weekends, and there is still a concluding away match against St Albans to be rearranged.

Under the London League rules, Southgate are entitled to postpone matches if they are without four or more players and for each training weekend they are likely to lose six. Postponements would hardly enable them to meet the March 31 deadline but there is the alternative of playing matches with weaker sides.

Cardinals will miss busy Cheetham

The England women's indoor squad, playing as The Cardinals, are in The Netherlands for the annual HDM indoor tournament which starts tonightin The Hague (Joyce Whitehead writes).

The Cardinals, beaten 5-4 in the final last year by HDM, the host club, will be missing Mary Cheetham, the tireless Leicestershire player who has withdrawn from international indoor hockey. However, Claire Liddell and Samantha Wright, supported by the stalwarts Margaret Souyave, Sandy Lister, Linda Carr and Tracey Wilce, will take some holding when they turn out for their first match in the round-robin section of the tournament against HDM tonight.

THE CARDINALS: L Bollington (Essex), J Brittin (Surrey), L Carr (Lancs), J Cook (Lancs), M Edards (Kent), C Liddell (Essex), S Lister (Suffolk), M Souyave (Lancs, captain), J Thompson (Bucks), T Wilce (Suffolk), S Wright (Leics), K Brown (Surrey).

● Lancashire will represent the North in the county section at the national indoor championships at Crystal Palace from February 12 to 14. Ipswich and Welwyn Garden City will represent the East in the clubs' section and Ealing, Slough, Wimbledon, Woking, Worthing and Portsmouth play their final tournament this weekend in Maidenhead to decide the southern club representatives.

Rutherford is on the mend with a little help from Ibrox

By Roddy Forsyth

For a man who had seriously contemplated the pleasures of retirement from top-level rugby this season, John Rutherford is greatly aggrieved at having inaction thrust upon him.

"Yes, I must admit that if I had enjoyed a good World Cup in New Zealand last year I would have thought about calling it a day because I think it is important to retire before you go into decline," he said. "But the way it worked out has made me determined to get myself back into the game as soon as possible."

The way it worked out was particularly unfortunate for the elegantstand-off, whose partnership with the combative Roy Laidlaw produced a world record half-back combination of 33 appearances against International Board countries.

In Scotland's memorable opening match in the World Cup, a 20-20 draw with France, Rutherford lay inert on the turf after a spectacular double collision with only six minutes of the match played. It was to be the extent of his playing tenure in the tournament, thanks to damaged knee ligaments which will never be repaired.

"An awful long way to go for so little," Rutherford yesterday. The road back has been even longer. It looked briefly that he might have resumed his familiar duties with Selkirk this winter, but the injuries soon proved too vulnerable for the demands of rugby and an operation was deemed necessary. Now the muscles around the wound must be built up to compensate for the lack of strength in the ligament.

"That's why it has taken so long for me to get going again and I have to admit that at the moment I feel a bit despondent because so much effort has been put in without the reward of playing," he said.



Waiting game: Rutherford still hoping to call the tune

Still, there has been some compensation for Rutherford's comparative inactivity. A Rangers supporter from boyhood, he met the club's chief executive, David Holmes, at a dinner last month. Holmes discovered that Rutherford was about to move from the Edinburgh office of the Life Assurance Company, for which he works, to become an assistant manager in the Glasgow headquarters.

On finding that Rutherford had not found suitable training facilities in the city, Holmes invited him to use Ibrox, an offer eagerly accepted. The Rangers' trainer-coach, Phil Boersma, proved helpful and Rutherford has been busy in the multi-gym and on the stadium's perimeter track. The prognosis is good.

"I don't see any reason why I can't be playing again in two or three weeks. My target is to get through some regular club rugby without doing any more damage," Rutherford said.

Meanwhile, beginning tomorrow against Ireland at Lansdowne Road, Scotland must contest their five nations championship without him.

According to Rutherford the odds are less than even that he will pull on the dark blue jersey again, but as he says: "A good run for the club, a return to form — these are the things I have to do for myself. Then I have to hope the selectors will think it worthwhile to come and look at me again . . ."

No escape for the French

From Chris Than
Paris

French training sessions at the Chateau Ricard retreat in Clairefontaine, near Paris, have been following the now familiar pattern. The players train twice a day under the sharp eye, and even sharper tongue, of their coach, Jacques Fouroux, and then face the assembled bands of media representatives.

After the success in the World Cup, rugby is a high-profile game in France and most papers send their reporters in droves, not only to the games but to training sessions.

The changes in the French team have also altered the emphasis in training, with the lineout and the scrum coming under particular scrutiny. The inclusion of the 6ft 7in lock-forward, Patrick Serriere, is expected to boost the French lineout options significantly.

Because of his size — he is of an identical height to Alain Esteve, the tallest man to have played for France — Serriere will jump at No. 4 in the lineout with thatold warhorse, Jean Condom, moving forward to No. 2. However, if France are to use two man lineouts they will employ Condom and Champ as jumpers.

In spite of Serriere's size, he is not regarded as a particularly efficient scrummager, so the revitalized England pack — with Probyn in a mean, cool mood — could disrupt France's attacking weapon, their scrummaging. However, most French worries concern their back division.

The stand-off half, Franck Mesnel, has played only one competitive game since he damaged his left knee in a championship match on December 20. He played last weekend against Bayonne, but as he acknowledged, Fouroux's decision to include him in the team was a calculated gamble.

"I am 95 per cent fit today and *I will be 99 per cent tomorrow.* Hopefully I'll be 105 per cent on Saturday," Mesnel, who still is undergoing daily physio treatment, said yesterday in Clairefontaine.

"When Jacques Fouroux asked me whether I can play for France I said that I will be OK. I made a commitment and I have to deliver now," he said.

France have been training in Clairefontaine since Wednesday afternoon, but the squad gathered in Troyes on Monday. All French players, save five of them, have undergone medical and fitness tests for two days, similar to those undertaken before the World Cup.

Whatever the French Federation may argue, this is a clear breach of the International Rugby Board regulations.

McBride takes an optimistic view

By George Ace

Willie John McBride is optimistic that the man who succeeded him as Ulster coach, Jimmy Davidson, the current national coach, will fashion a win for the Irish against Scotland at Landsdowne Road tomorrow.

"Jimmy and I worked closely together in the late 1970s when I was appointed Ulster coach," said McBride, rugby's second most capped player, having played 80 times for Ireland and the British Lions.

"Davidson is one of the game's deep thinkers and I am certain that he will have done his homework thoroughly for the opening game against Scotland.

"He's still concentrating quite a bit on his back row and half backs — and that is how it should be. Basic possession from set-piece play is all-important in modern rugby. If that can be achieved, your back row and half backs can control the game and the winning is easy.

"Davidson is a sound tactician. He is not only aware of the weaknesses and strengths of his own side, but I'll bet he has a dossier on every ploy from which Scotland have scored in recent years. He also has one great factor in his favour: Scotland will be without John Rutherford.

"To a lesser extent Milne will be missed in the front row but Scotland, without Rutherford at outside half working in tandem with the irrepressible Roy Laidlaw, his half back partner, is like a ship without a rudder.

"But Davidson will not be over-influenced to any great degree in his tactical approach by the absence of Rutherford or Milne. He will prepare for the best Scotland can throw at him. He would not be human if he did not permit himself a slight sigh of relief that Rutherford will not be at the helm to direct the Scottish assault and marshall their defences.

"He will very quickly dispel any ideas his team may hold that Scotland without Rutherford are no real threat."

McBride had more reason that most to remember the Scots. He was coach to the Irish side that lost 32-9 in the corresponding fixture in 1984. The last win at Lansdowne Road over Scotland was achieved in Ireland's 1982 triple crown year, 21-12, when all the Irish points came from the boot of Ollie Campbell.

"I was delighted when I learned that Ollie Campbell was helping out with the backs at the training sessions. His very presence is bound to be a boost for the players. It is a pretty formidable trio Ireland have at their squad work-outs with Davidson at the helm and Syd Millar and Campbell backing up with their experience and expertise.

Danahar fit to face Scots

Ireland will play as selected against Scotland at Lansdowne Road tomorrow. Philip Danahar, the Lansdowne and Munster full back who wins a first cap at the expense of Hugo MacNeill, removed any lingering doubts regarding his fitness after a last serious workout at Terenure yesterday (George Ace writes).

Danahar broke down in training last Saturday week with a recurrence of a hamstring injury which has troubled him throughout the season and cost him his Munster place against Ulster in the opening provincial match of the season in October.

He has had extensive physiotherapy treatment twice daily for the last 10 days and showed no discomfort during a 90-minute workout.

Davidson, the new Irish coach, went through the gambit of ruck, mauls, lineouts, and threequarter moves in a lively session if not quite so intense as those he has conducted since the team was announced in late December.

"The team is in good heart and I am confident they will leave their World Cup form well behind against the Scots" Davidson said.

The Scots, who arrived in Dublin late yesterday afternoon, will have a morning workout at Stradbrook, the ground of Blackrock College.

Going against Welsh grain

By Gerald Davies

The Welsh Rugby Union must wonder every now and then whether there is anyone out there who is prepared to listen. All the talk about leagues has found such a wall of resistance that Ray Williams, the union secretary, is about to embark on a grand tour to sell the idea at district level.

When the WRU conducted a *review of the World Cup and its* consequences, only a handful of coaches bothered to turn up. In an attempt, because of the changing educational pattern, to reconcile the interests of all those who play rugby under the age of 19 and to organize one union to take over from the two unions — of youth and school — they have found the two organizations difficult to budge.

The lack of response in all this makes the hesitation among many of the players understandable. In a country so proud of its radical and inquiring nature, rugby football simply wants to conserve what it has while evidence mounts that a different direction ought to be taken.

The trial match was a case in point. Even though the probables lost, Tony Gray, the Welsh coach, did not dismiss it entirely as an exercise. "Provided that along the way you learn a few things about the players," he says.

"What was disappointing was the manner in which the game was played. In our practices we have tried to emphasize the need for players in a ruck to stay on their feet and to keep the ball *alive and returned quickly* without delay. Sadly this was not very apparent in the match itself."

In this respect, he and his assistant, Derek Quinnell, are working almost in isolation. What they are trying to do at national level, is going starkly against the grain of what is happening on a weekly basis at club level.

Pontypool and Neath are the only two clubs who can be said to be following a style which makes the ruck a dynamic facet of rugby. However, Pontypool had only one representative in the trial and he was a centre. Neath had three players but were split among the other 16 forwards. Llanelli and Pontypridd are beginning to do so.

It is clearly not enough in a game finding it difficult to release itself from the wrestling mauls which end in such ugly little heaps. Coaches are clearly not receptive to changing patterns or are incapable of doing anything about it.

"It is very worrying," Gray says. "We at national level know what needs to be done. But we can only go so far because a moment comes in the course of a match when a player reverts to type. If staying on his feet is not part of what he normally does then he will fall to the ground when the time comes because that is what he always does."

There is not much comfort in the future for Gray. In the first week of 1988 Wales played Scotland in a senior schools international at Swansea. In difficult, windy conditions Wales managed to marshal the climatic advantages better — which is naturally part of the tactics — and held on to win. But large difference between Wales *and Scotland last year* at adult level was mirrored in the youngsters' play. Wales had no real rucking technique, whereas Scotland, staying on their feet, moved dynamically forward at speed.

Format alters for England trialists

Schools rugby by Michael Stevenson

The RFSU authorities have changed the format of their 16 Group trials for this season. Instead of regional trials, divisional games will be played and sponsors for the competition have been found in J A Downes of Home Owners Financial Services, Macclesfield.

As the 18 Group divisional matches advance towards their final trial at Nottingham HS on March 5, a considerable number of schools have ended their season, apart from the ever-popular spring Sevens Tournament and rarer 15-a-side festivals.

Among notable exceptions is the successful Bradford GS side which, still unbeaten, found themselves trailing 10-6 at half-time against Nottingham HS on Saturday. They had, moreover, experienced the indignity of conceding a pushover try. The pattern altered drastically in the second half and Bradford won 10-29.

It is the second successive year that RGS High Wycombe have conceded a single defeat by Christmas. Last term they were narrowly beaten (12-10) by Desborough, and earned the impressive record of: played 12: won 11: lost 1. Points: for 253, against 62.

Rugby is thriving at The Bishop of Hereford's Bluecoat School. The master in charge, John Escott, regards the current side as one of the weakest he can recall. But they have won six out of 13 games and have contributed nine players to the Herefordshire 16 Group side.

Llandovery's fine form continues. They entertained a fast and strong Newbridge College, Co Kildare, side, winning 19-13. Llandovery make the return trip to Newbridge early in March.

Martyn Garrod, master in charge at Monkton Combe, reports that the school has enjoyed one of its most successful seasons ever; they won 13 out of 17 matches.One of their defeats was by the successful Taunton side, who beat them 10-8 in the recent Schools' festival in Portugal.

TENNIS: AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE OVERSHADOWED BY OFF-COURT TOPICS AND TROPICS

Borrowed rackets too tight for last Britons

From Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent
Melbourne

The singles events in the Australian championships, have each been reduced to 32 players. Four of these — Stefan Edberg, Joey Rive, Menno Oosting and Catherine Tanvier — had bad news yesterday, because some of their rackets were among a total of 60 stolen from a local stringer's shop.

Edberg, champion here for the past two years, was deprived of only three of his 11 rackets. But they cannot easily be replaced because they are made to his own specifications. "It's quite a problem," he said. "You always need a lot of rackets at different tensions, because you don't know what the weather will be like. But I feel more sorry for the shop."

The chap who runs the business already had enough problems. On Monday he had a heart attack — and 200 rackets to string. Within 24 hours that total almost trebled. Players can be casual about security and rackets are often stolen. "When you're given everything, you know the value of nothing," a friend commented. But on this occasion neither the players nor the stringers were to blame.

Todd Snyder and Donna Pallulat, the respective trainers (physiotherapists), said that yesterday three men and one woman were treated for heat-related ailments. "The biggest problem," Snyder said, "is the body's inability to cool itself down." This could lead to a decrease in physical efficiency and, perhaps, to cramp, nausea, dizziness, disorientation, even unconsciousness.

Pallulat made the further points that "in these conditions you lose more fluid than salt" and that many players did not give themselves enough time to acclimatize or did not organize their diets effectively.

Before leaving this worrying subject one should make three points. First, Snyder said that at Flinders Park they were "seeing more blisters and foot problems than on any other surface. Rubber shoes form a bond on rubber courts." Second, every court surface poses different problems to the players and the likes of Snyder and Pallulat. Third, the difficulties arising from the heat and the surface have been exaggerated by Melbourne's unusually long spell of high temperatures.

In fairness to those who made the futuristic marvel of Flinders Park possible, one should add that the players are delighted with the surface — polyurethane and synthetic rubber. A reservation is that the courts are spongier, stickier, in the heat of the afternoon.

The move from grass to cushioned hard courts caused some apprehension in Australia but has done its players no harm. They are as prominent this year as they were last. That does not apply to Britain, whose three remaining contenders were beaten yesterday.

Rive, who had five rackets stolen and played the first set with borrowed ones before replacements arrived, beat Jeremy Bates 5-7, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4. Slobodan Zivojinovic, seeded eighth, defeated Stephen Shaw 6-4, 6-4, 6-7, 6-3 and Miss Tanvier (having yielded one racket to the thieves) was ultimately too good for Jo Durie and beat her 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

The pale-eyed Rive, a left-hander from Puerto Rico, played a bad first set. Often he laid his racket on the court and trod on the strings as if crushing grapes. Usually this indicates that a player with deficiencies of touch wants to transfer the blame to his equipment. In Rive's case there were extenuating circumstances. Once his new rackets arrived, he insisted that — though perhaps not quite as talented — he was a more positive and resilient competitor than Bates.

Zivojinovic's win over Shaw, who was only marginally second best, was marred by the Yugoslav's petulant response to stiff resistance. In the third set Zivojinovic, serving, objected to a line decision and tried to involve Shaw, who eventually told him — as did many spectators — to shut up.

During the next changeover Shaw intercepted Zivojinovic and told him that if he had anything to say he should "say it now." After a few moments Zivojinovic walked away from the eyeball to eyeball confrontation but continued to moan and was heard to mutter "son of a bitch." Shaw observed: "You're the one whose bitching about the calls." What fun these players have, when they put their minds to it.

Miss Durie played an admirably positive and accomplished first set but, thereafter, kept talking to herself without listening quite as attentively as she had done earlier. She receded into a mental shell. Miss Tanvier, excelling on the forehand, was less inhibited and more consistent. Ultimately, Miss Durie weakened after a bad line decision and suggested that somebody else would be to blame for her defeat.

The favourite for the women's title, Steffi Graf, won 6-0, 6-1 against Janine Thompson of Sydney, who later suggested that Miss Graf hit as hard as Miss Thompson's one-time practice partner, Chris Lewis, the 1983 runner-up at Wimbledon.

Last year's runner-up for the men's title, Pat Cash, faces the possibility of suspension because his most recent fine — on Monday — took him over the permitted limit. Since the businessmen and bureaucrat took over, tennis has become awfully complicated.



Taking the strain: Durie reaches for a volley during her defeat against Tanvier

RESULTS FROM MELBOURNE

RESULTS: Men's singles, second round: M Gustafsson (Swe) bt J Kriek (SA) 6-3, 6-1 6-4; A Jarryd (Swe) bt G Rozzi (It), 6-4, 7-6, 6-3; C Saceanu (WG) bt B Mohr (SA), 6-4, 6-4, 6-4; J Frawley (Aus) bt P Lundgren (Swe), 6-1, 6-3, 6-3; J Poster (Fr) bt C Pridham (Can), 7-6, 6-3, 6-2; M Kratzmann (Aus) bt P Cane (It), 4-6, 6-3, 6-1, 6-2; D Goldie (US) bt M Laurendeau (Can), 6-4, 6-3, 6-1; J Rive (US) bt J Bates (GB), 5-7, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4; J Siottenberg (Aus) bt T Woodbridge (Aus), 6-3, 6-2, 6-4; A Chesnokov (USSR) bt T Benhabiles (Fr), 6-1, 7-5, 7-6; J Grabb (US) bt G Forget (Fr), 6-4, 7-5, 5-7, 6-7, 7-5. Women's singles, second round: P Stirber (US) bt R Fairbank (US), 7-5, 6-2; L McNeil (US) bt M Bollegraf (Neth), 6-4, 6-0; H Mandlikova (Aus) bt H Ter Riet (Neth), 6-1, 6-1; S Graf (WG) bt J Thompson (Aus), 6-0, 6-1; A Minter (Aus) bt L O'Neill (Aus), 6-2, 6-4; C Lindqvist (Swe) bt A Henrickson (US), 6-2, 6-2; E Okagawa (Japan) bt C Reynolds (US), 6-4, 6-4; C Tanvier (Fr) bt J Durie (GB), 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; C Christian (US) bt C Dumas (Fr), 6-2, 6-4; J Byrne (Aus) bt P Moreno (HK), 6-2, 6-7, 6-4; M Brown (US) bt M Jaggard (Aus), 6-7, 6-4, 6-1; Caramy MacGregor (US) bt M Javer (US), 6-4, 6-4. Men's doubles, first round: D Cahill and M Kratzmann (Aus) bt P Cane and D Nargiso (It) 7-5, 6-4; T Benhabiles and J Poster (Fr) bt B Dyke and W Masur (Aus), 6-1, 6-4; K Jones and T Nelson (US) bt M Schapers and H van Boeckel (Neth), 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; S Barr and K Warwick (Aus) bt M Oosting (Neth) and C Saceanu (WG), 7-5, 6-4; A Maurer (WG) and W Scanlon (US) bt A Mmoh (Nigeria) and R Smith (Bahamas), 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; T Wilkison and T Wilson (US) bt R Cahill and P Mick (Aus), 6-1, 7-5; J Svensson and M Tideman (Swe) bt C Eagle (Aus) and H Shirato (Japan), 7-6, 6-3; M Bauer (US) and T Nijssen (Neth) bt P Krook and D Cole (Aus), 7-5, 6-4; C Limberger and M Woodforde (Aus) bt J Siottenberg and T Woodbridge (Aus), 6-4, 7-6; R Leach and J Pugh (US) bt J Anderson and R Fromberg (Aus), 6-2, 6-2; A Castle (GB) and R Saad (US) bt M Anger and T Pawsat (US), 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; G Cognetiere and C Pozzi (It) bt G Glammalva and J Grabb (US), 6-4, 6-4; J Bates (GB) and P Lundgren (Swe) bt P Baur and A Mronz (WG), 6-2, 7-6. Women's doubles, first round: C Evert (US) and W Turnbull (Aus) bt E Derly and M Laval (Fr), 6-4, 6-1; Z Garrison and B Potter (US) bt J Helard and P Paradis (Fr), 6-3, 6-2; C Cohen (Switz) and D Tsebouloudou (Gr) bt I Berger (Ger) and D Casale (US), 6-1, 6-7, 6-0; C Porwick and W Probst (WG) bt D Balestrat and N Provis (Aus), 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; H Mandlikova (Aus) and J Novotna (Cz) bt K Dead and C Thompson (Aus), 6-1, 6-0; A Henrickson (US) and C Jolissaint (Switz) bt M Bowrey and S McCann (Aus), 6-4, 6-2; B Cordwell and J Richardson (NZ) bt K Ito and E Okagawa (Japan), 6-0, 6-1; A Dewies (Bel) and E Kragl (Switz) bt L-A Eldredge and M Wendel (US), 6-4, 6-1; J Goodling and W Wood (US) bt J Fuchs and J Thomas (US), 6-3, 6-2; C Suire and C Tanvier (Fr) bt N Jagerman (Neth) and J Kaplan (US), 6-1, 6-0; P Hy (HK) and E Inoue (Japan) bt J-A Faull and R McQuillan (Aus), 3-6, 6-4, 6-4; E Elida and A Nishiya (Japan) bt V Lake and C Wood (GB), 2-6, 7-5, 6-3; K McDonald (Aus) and E Smith (US), bt Y Kolzumi (Japan) and J Masters (Aus), 6-4, 7-5; M Bollegraf (Neth) and S Collins (US) bt R Fairbank (SA) and C Reynolds (US), 7-6, 3-6, 6-3; J Durie (GB) and S Wallis-Pete (US) bt M Lindstrom (Swe) and A Scott (Aus), 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; P Fendick (US) and J Hetherington (Can) bt B Bowes (US) and R Zrubakova (Cz), 6-7, 6-1, 6-4.

GOLF

Watson turns back to Turnberry

From John Ballantine
La Costa, California

Tom Watson believes he has found his putting touch again after "detective work" by his caddie, Bruce Edwards. Watson, who won the British Open five times between 1975 and 1983, went out at the end of the 38-strong field in the first round of the Tournament of Champions here yesterday more confident on the greens than he has been for four years.

Stories of the miraculous return of once-legendary putting strokes abound in this game and only time will tell whether Watson has found real or fool's gold. But his story is remarkable.

"Two weeks ago Bruce rang me up in my home in Kansas City and said that he thought he'd discovered exactly what my problem has been these last few years," Watson said yesterday.

"He said he had been looking at old films of my victories in the Seventies. During the tape of one of my rounds at Turnberry in 1977, a British commentator had remarked how arched and high my hands were on my putting grip.

"I couldn't wait to get to the practice green," an excited Watson continued, "and immediately I began to hold my hands higher I found the putter blade going back and forwards much straighter."

So that British commentator has something to feel proud about over his bacon and eggs this morning. But experience has taught me to sound a word of caution.

Some years ago, after Dai Rees had given a pathetic exhibition of twitchiness at one tournament, an old spectator approached him: "You didn't use to putt like that in your younger days, Dai. I remember the method you used to knock them in from all over the green and I'll show you if you like."

They repaired to a nearby practice green and for half an hour an optimistic Rees tried to recapture his successful style. Alas, the well-meaning spectator could not do a remodelling job on his nerves or his ageing mind and body.

Sam Snead regained some of his putting skill by employing a stiff-armed "side saddle" style but Ben Hogan and Arnold Palmer never completely recovered from the "twitch." So only time will tell whether Watson, who went off in the last pair with Mike Reid yesterday, just ahead of Ken Brown, will recover his silky touch. Nick Faldo and Sandy Lyle were off a little earlier.

Wednesday's results

FA CUP: Third round replays: Everton 1, Sheffield Wednesday 1 (aet; 1-1 at 90min; winners at home to Middlesbrough); Norwich City 0, Swindon Town 2 (Swindon away to Newcastle United).

SIMOD CUP: Second round: Reading 1, Oxford United 2.

WELSH FA CUP: Fourth round: Caernarfon 3, Shrewsbury Town 1.

GM Vauxhall Conference: Postponed: Weymouth v Maidstone.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Postponed: Carrick v Ards.

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Huddersfield Town 1, Grimsby Town 2. Second division: Barnsley 1, Blackburn Rovers 4; Newcastle United 5, Bolton Wanderers 2; Scunthorpe United 1, Stoke City 1.

SUNDAY MIRROR COMBINATION: Fulham 2, Chelsea 0; Ipswich Town 4, Luton Town 1. Postponed: Brighton v Tottenham Hotspur.

MACBAR SOUTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Cardiff 1, Plymouth Argyle 2.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Westgate Insurance Cup: Second round: Cambridge City 4, Dunstable 3; Leicester United 1, Burton 3; Shepshed 2, Stourbridge 0; VS Rugby 4, Mile Oak 2.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: League Cup: First round: Gainsborough 1, Congleton 0. Replay: Postponed: Winsford v Rhyl.

VAUXHALL-OPEL LEAGUE: First division: Kingsbury 3, Southwick 4.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Vauxhall-Opel League XI 1, FA XI 2 (at Kingstonian FC).

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP: Dundee 2, Aberdeen 3; Heriot Watt 1, Glasgow 0.

SPANISH CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Castilla 0, Osasuna 0; Atletico Madrid 2, Real Sociedad 1; Castellon 1, Barcelona 1; Sabadell 3, Real Madrid 2.

OPORTO, Portugal: European Super Cup: Porto 1, Ajax 0.

Trio suspended

Three Fulham football players — Leroy Rosenior, a forward, Gary Elkins, a defender, and Robert Wilson, a midfield player, start two-match suspensions from tomorrow. The trio will miss the club's third division home games against Port Vale and Chester City.

Houchen's lay-off

Keith Houchen, the Coventry City forward, has gone to hospital after contracting a chest infection. He will be there for about five days, to receive a course of antibiotics, and misses the match against Tottenham Hotspur tomorrow.

WINTER SPORTS

French pair's flair given little reward

From John Hennessy, Prague

The spirit of Torvill and Dean lives on in amateur skating. A French couple, Isabelle Duchesnay and her brother Paul, brought the house down yesterday at the European championships with an original set-pattern (OSP) dance based on ideas from the British Olympic champions. The free dance by the French tonight, choreographed by Dean, promises to be even more sensational than yesterday's performance.

This sporting representation of the *Entente Cordiale* took the title of the competition on face value and produced a programme of an originality that we used to associate only with Torvill and Dean.

The Duchesnays' programme was full of dangerous pitfalls, but they carried it off to perfection. Not that it made too much difference to the result. Ice dance judges are notoriously reluctant to shift from their positions established after the first of the three compulsories.

Here they yielded marginally, but not enough to change the order in any one respect, except to remove a German couple struck down by injury. This at least enabled the British champions, Sharon Jones and Paul Askham, to move up to eighth, the position they occupied last year.

The overall winners of the OSP were Natalya Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin, the successors to Torvill and Dean as world champions. The Soviets made the most of a prescribed rhythm, the tango, which allowed free rein to Bestemianova's histrionic qualities. They received three marks of 6.0 for presentation. But it was the French who had the last glorious word — *sensationel*.

Paul Robinson must have had a blackout in the compulsory figures, according to his trainer and mother, Inge Dorn. He had just signed off with a messy set of loops marked as low as 2.1 in one derisory instance, and declined from tenth place to thirteenth, two places below his position last year.

Even so, the computer seemed to be kind to him. Twenty-second place in the third figure had threatened a still more serious fall from grace.

STANDINGS: Men (after compulsory figures): 1, A Fadeyev (USSR) 0.8 pts; 2, V Kotin (USSR) 1.2; 3, H Fischer (WG) 1.8; 4, G Fibkowski (Pol) 2.4; 5, V Petrenko (USSR) 3.0; 6, R Zander (WG) 3.6. British: 13, P Robinson 7.6. Ice dance (after original set pattern): 1, N Bestemianova/A Bukin (USSR) 1.0 pts; 2, N Annenko/S Bretenski (USSR) 2.0; 3, K and C Beck (Austria) 3.4; 4, M Usova/A Zhulin (USSR) 3.6; 5, I and P Duchesnay (Fra) 4.8; 6, K Eng/A Toth (Hun) 6.0. British: 8, S Jones/P Askham 8.6;17, A Meyers/J Green 17.8

Risk of injury reduces the turnout at Cervinia

From Chris Moore, Cervinia

Cervinia's reputation as the most dangerous track in Europe has taken its toll on the turnout for this week's fifth and final round of Foster's World Cup bobsleigh series here.

Only seven nations were represented as official training for the two-man competition got under way yesterday. Most of the others have evidently decided that the Italian venue, which claimed three opening-day victims yesterday, represents too big an injury risk before next month's Olympic Games in Calgary.

The absence of the Soviet Union and Austrians in particular, has effectively settled the outcome of all three World Cup gold medals. It means that Janis Kipurs, Russia's top driver, cannot be overhauled in first place in the two-man event which he leads by 18 points, while Austria's Ingo Appelt and Peter Kienast will finish joint winners of the four-man competition, each with 75 points, and will also be first and second respectively in the combination.

The only medal still on offer is the four-man bronze. Anton Fisher, of West Germany, is lying third with 50 points, but is absent after just being released from hospital with head injuries.

That leaves the way open for Mark Tout, of Britain, to regain third place which he lost after crashing at Konigssee in the fourth round two weeks ago.

The British champion, Tom De La Hunty, had the fastest time of 1min 10.6sec on yesterday's opening run and was fourth fastest on the second.

Figini out on her own

Zinal, Switzerland (AP) — Michela Figini, of Switzerland, yesterday recorded her third victory this season, in a downhill race, to increase her overall lead in the women's World Cup skiing standings.

Miss Figini's time of 1min 55.16sec was almost a second up on her nearest rival, Karen Percy of Canada, whose second-place finish was the best World Cup performance of her four-season career.

Petra Kronberger, of Austria, obtained her first World Cup downhill points, coming in third in 1min 56.39sec and pushing Maria Walliser, the defending champion, into fourth place.

Victory for Miss Figini moved her onto 146 points in the overall standings, 42 more than Miss Walliser.

RESULTS: 1, M Figini (Switz), 1:55.16; 2, K Percy (Can), 1:56.10; 3, P Kronberger (Austria), 1:56.39; 4, M Walliser (Switz), 1:56.52; 5, B Wolf (Austria), 1:56.81; 6, B Oertli (Switz), 1:57.28; 7, B Gafner (Switz), 1:57.38; 8, A Wachter (Austria), 1:57.43; 9, P Fletcher (US), 1:57.51; 10, H Lindh (US), 1:57.55; 11, K Gutensohn (Austria), 1:57.76; 12, V Wallinger (Austria), 1:57.83; 13, M Gerg (WG), 1:57.98; 14, E Kircher (Austria), 1:58.00; 15, H Zeller (Switz), 1:58.03. British: 45, I Grant 2:05.25. Downhill standings: 1, M Figini, 77pts; 2, Walliser, 47; 3, Wolf, 43; 4, Oertli, 36; 5, Percy, 35; 6, C Baumeisen (Switz), 31; 7, M Kiehl (WG), 30; 8, L Graham (Can), 22; 9, Gerg, 18; 10, Kronberger, 16. Overall World Cup standings: 1, Figini, 146pts; 2, Walliser, 102; 3, B Fernandez-Ochoa (Sp), 101; 4, Wachter (Aus), 98; 5, Wolf, 87; 6, Oertli, 84; 7, V Schneider (Switz), 80; 8, Gerg, 78; 9 C Quittet (Fr), 77; 10, M Svet (Yug), 69; 11, Percy, 62.

CYCLING

Police will speed big races on way

Police chiefs yesterday offered a helping hand to the organizers of the country's two major events this year, the Milk Race and the Kellogg's Tour of Britain (Peter Bryan writes).

A meeting of the Traffic Committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) in Welwyn Garden, Hertfordshire, recommended that a code of conduct for the two international events should be drawn up in conjunction with the British Cycling Federation.

That recommendation, together with others, will be considered by a full meeting of the ACPO council next week.

The Chief Constable of Gwent, John Over, chairman of the Traffic Committee, told *The Times* after yesterday's meeting: "We want to get together with the cycling organizations to produce a sensible and well-thought-out code of conduct so that everyone connected with these big international races will know what is best to ensure a successful event."

He indicated that ACPO would be seeking to achieve an agreed code in time for the Milk Race (May 30-June 11) and also adopted for the Tour of Britain (August 9-14).

He confirmed that last year's experiment of having a team of 12 police motor-cyclists with the Tour of Britain to halt traffic briefly and speed the riders' passage along the road, will be retained.

"It builds up our experience, we think it's safe, and it is a great help to the race organizers," Over said. The Chief Constable also warned that the Milk Race and the Tour of Britain would be a likely upper limit for international multi-stage races.

Last night, Leonard Unwin, secretary of the British Cycling Federation, welcomed the police desire for a code of conduct and added that it would not be BCF policy to add to the international calendar.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm) -	°C
ANDORRA							
Soldeu	60	110	fair	powder	closed	cloud	-1
Good conditions on upper pistes							
AUSTRIA							
Kitzbühel	0	45	fair	varied	closed	fine	4
Reasonable skiing on upper slopes							
Obergurgl	40	140	fair	varied	fair	cloud	3
Lower slopes becoming icy							
FRANCE							
Flaine	80	140	icy	varied	poor	cloud	3
Skiing is good above 2,000m							
Megève	20	80	fair	varied	poor	fair	5
Best skiing on north facing slopes							
La Plagne	70	120	fair	spring	fair	cloud	-2
Worn patches on lower slopes							
ITALY							
Courmayeur	45	120	good	powder	poor	snow	-5
Good skiing on upper slopes							
SWITZERLAND							
Davos	20	45	fair	varied	poor	fine	-1
Good skiing still available but pistes wearing thin							
Mürren	5	45	good	varied	poor	cloud	1
Limited off piste skiing							
St Moritz	40	60	good	powder	fair	snow	-2
New snow on a hard base							
Villars	5	15	icy	varied	closed	cloud	8
Worn patches upper slopes							
Zermatt	45	90	fair	varied	worn	cloud	0
Good snow above 2,500m							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

AUSTRIA	L	U
Bad Kleinkirchheim	15	80
Ischgl	20	80
Lech	30	105
Mayrhofen	0	30
Niederau	0	35
Saalbach	20	70
St Anton	30	170
Schladming	30	60
Silden	10	60
Söll	0	20
Zell am See	10	50

● Information supplied by the Austrian National Tourist Office.

GERMANY	L	U
Berchtesgaden	0	10
Garmisch	0	140
Hindelang	0	10
Mittenwald	0	15
Oberstdorf	0	90
Reit im Winkl	15	50

● Information supplied by the German Automobile Club.

ITALY	L	U
Arabba	50	70
Bormio	25	50
Cervinia	60	180
Cortina d'Ampezzo	20	80
Corvara	40	70
Livigno	40	80
Madesimo	25	70
Madonna di Campiglio	30	100
Sauze d'Oulx	20	30
Selva di Valgardena	10	70
Sestriere	30	40
Passo Tonale	40	200

● Information supplied by the Italian Tourist Office.

SWITZERLAND	L	U
Adelboden	5	15
Andermatt	20	80
Arosa	30	45
Champéry	20	50
Crans-Montana	15	70
Engelberg	5	130
Grindelwald	5	30
Gstaad	0	15
Klosters	15	45
Lauo-Flims	5	70
Les Diablerets	10	40
Leysin	5	25
Pontresina	30	100
Stass Fee	60	120
Verbier	5	90
Wengen	0	30

● Information supplied by the Swiss National Tourist Office.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: upper runs, runs complete, but narrow, new snow; middle runs, snow cover patchy, new snow; lower slopes, snow cover patchy, new snow; vertical runs, 600ft; hill and main roads, clear; snow level, 3,200ft. Glenshee, Glenesk and Lecht: insufficient snow for skiing. Forecast for today: a few showers, mainly in Glencoe, falling as snow above 2,500ft; sunny periods in the east; fresh south-west winds; freezing level, 3,000ft. Outlook for tomorrow: becoming a little colder, light winds; otherwise little change.

● Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

Doyle falls en route to victory

By Peter Bryan

Tony Doyle made his mark — literally — on the Bremen track before winning his second six-day race of the winter season partnered by Danny Clark, of Australia.

In the final Madison of the race Doyle was closing in on the leaders Andreas Kappes, of West Germany, and Roman Hermann, of Lichtenstein, when his rear tyre blew out with such force that the former world champion crashed heavily, sliding for some distance along the track, and bringing down two other riders.

Fortunately for Doyle, whose shorts and jersey were shredded in the fall, his pedal gouged the wooden track and the race was stopped while carpenters made swift repairs. "I badly burned my left side, arm and leg," Doyle said. "but the five minute stoppage allowed me time to change my shorts and jersey and have a moment's breather before the re-start."

Twenty minutes from the end the Doyle-Clark pairing was only four points behind Kappes and Hermann and the race hung on the outcome of the last of 11 sprints. Doyle relayed Clark for the last two laps with the latter first over the line for an overall victory by eight points from Kappes and Hermann with Stan Tourne and Eric de Wilde, of Belgium third, one lap back.

Russell Williams, the unsponsored London rider, finished twelfth partnered by Martin Penc, the former world champion, of Czechoslovakia.

After the race Doyle was admitted to hospital for treatment but X-rays showed that he had not broken any bones in the fall. Tonight the Doyle-Clark team start the Stuttgart six-day race, held on the 285m indoor track.

SWIMMING

Famous baths are saved by a casting vote

Blackpool's international Derby swimming baths have been saved by the casting vote of the chairman of the Blackpool Council (Roy Moor writes).

The council's Leisure Committee recently decided to demolish the baths unless a private investor could be found to take over the responsibility of the centre, and swimmers and officials from a wide area around Blackpool massed at the council headquarters to register their voice against the threat of the baths' existence.

Two leading voices in the fight to save the 50-year-old Derby baths as an international swimming venue were Bill Woodhouse, the chairman of the Blackpool Sports Council and Alf Turner, the honorary treasurer of the Amateur Swimming Association.

Turner told *The Times*: "I cannot say how delighted I am that we have saved Derby baths. I'm sure the swimmers' protest played an important part in the outcome."

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Minor clubs rebel over rejection

By Paul Newman

Vauxhall-Opel League second division clubs are preparing to take legal action if moves to force them out of the VOL go ahead.

A meeting last week of the league's full members — the premier and first division clubs — decided to investigate a possible restructuring of the competition, in particular to consider breaking away from the two regionalized second divisions, whose clubs would either have to form their own league or join other competitions.

A meeting last Friday of the associate members — the second division clubs — unanimously rejected the plans and elected a nine-strong steering committee to co-ordinate their opposition. Their decision will be discussed by the management committee next Friday.

Any proposed change would have to be put to a meeting of clubs, at which full members have one vote each and associate members just seven between them.

The steering committee is seeking the assistance of the Football Association and has already arranged a meeting with a leading lawyer specializing in sport and the law.

Ronald Everard, the chairman of Banstead Athletic and a member of the steering committee, said: "Many second division clubs have been persuaded to spend a lot of money in the last couple of years on bringing their grounds up to new standards set by the Vauxhall-Opel League. We could have a strong legal case, for compensation at least, if we are forced out.

"My club has spent £30,000 on rebuilding our stand and building a completely new boardroom, both of which were required by the league. The only way we could raise the money was through a large loan. After all that we've done, we're very distressed that the league is now talking about cutting us off."

The Vauxhall-Opel League was expanded in 1984, when most of the Athenian League's clubs were admitted into a regionalized second division. Some second division clubs were unhappy last season with the standards required by the league's new ground grading system, and a revival of the Athenian League was proposed.

However, with the Vauxhall-Opel League fiercely against the plan and reassuring its own members about their future, the number of interested clubs dwindled. The revival was finally shelved when the FA opposed it.

Many of the Vauxhall-Opel League's full members — only five of whom voted against the proposal to investigate restructuring — now believe that the decision to expand the league was wrong. One premier division chairman said: "We've seen the great success of the GM Vauxhall Conference, which has only one division, and we believe we could do much better in terms of sponsorship with a smaller league.

"At present we have to share our sponsorship money between four divisions and most of the second division clubs are a long way behind us both in facilities and playing standards.

The Athenian League, which has never been officially wound up, is awaiting the outcome of the Vauxhall-Opel League's deliberations before taking any action, but the structure for a revival is already in place. However, it could face competition from the Middlesex County League, which wants to form a premier division of senior

A £9,000 sponsorship by Contim Motors, dependent on the setting up of the division, has already been arranged, and the Middlesex FA has called a meeting on Wednesday.

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

TAIPEI: Taiwan invitation masters championship: Men's singles, first round: Tian Kim Soon (Mal) bt N Sleaby (Den), 15-5, 6-15, 15-4; L Pongoh (Indo) bt K Kasnopparat (Thai), 15-12, 6-15, 15-9; U Johansson (Swe) bt Chung Chia-jan (Tai), 15-1, 15-5; I Frederiksen (Den) bt Hamid Khan (Sing), 15-2, 11-15, 15-9; C Tan (Mal) bt Lin Wei-chen (Tai), 18-18, 15-11; N Yates (GB) bt P-E Hoyer Larsen (Den), 15-9, 15-10; E Ismanto (Indo) bt Lee Kook Hang (Mal), 15-10, 15-5; P-G Joensson (Swe) bt Chang Wan-sung (Tai), 9-15, 15-10, 15-9; S Ibrahim (GB) bt Foo Kok Keong (Mal), 15-17, 17-14; T Carlsen (Den) bt H Susanto (Indo), 5-15, 15-7, 15-5; S Kukiatgarbi (Thai) bt H Sparre (Nor), 15-3, 15-5; I Sugiarto (Indo) bt H Tanida (Japan), 15-3, 15-5; Rashid Sidek bt D Hall (GB), 15-2, 10-15, 15-4; Lin Neun-tsin (Tai) bt M Sidek (Mal), 15-10, 8-15, 15-8.

Women's singles, first round: K Larsen (Den) bt Poon Wai Na (HK), 11-0, 11-2; Y Kaike (Japan) bt Wang Hsiau-tsuei (Tai), 10-12, 11-8, 11-4; D Julaki (Can) bt C Bengtsson (Swe), 11-8, 11-4; S Suganti (Indo) bt A van der Knaap (Neth), 11-2, 11-3; J Munday (GB) bt Feng Ming-ying (Tai), 11-7, 11-7; Rita Mei Hong (Indo) bt N Schmit (WG), 10-12, 11-6, 13-10; L Coene (Neth) bt T Shinto (Japan), 11-1, 11-7; Sarwendah (Indo) bt S Charoensiri (Thai), 11-3, 11-7; F Elliot (GB) bt Sun Tzai Chieg (Tai), 11-1, 11-1; Lee Chien-mei (Tai) bt J Fatiandani (Can), 11-4, 11-3; A Chan (HK) bt Gau Shee-chian (Tai), 11-4, 11-3; P Sawangkaeo-kyhel (Tha) bt C Hastens (Den), 5-11, 11-8, 11-2; M Timar (Indo) bt C Magnusson (Swe), 11-6, 11-4; G Gowers (GB) bt Wu Ching-chie (Tai), 11-5, 11-1; P Nederpaard (Den) bt L Wikborg (Swe), 11-12, 11-4, 11-4; L Sudarwati (Indo) bt E van Dijck (Neth), 11-5, 9-12, 11-6.

TENNIS

MIDDLESBROUGH: Pro-Kennex national winter circuit: Grand prix, men's singles: G Henderson bt G Englerink, 6-4, 6-4. Women's singles: S Fossett bt M Phillips, 6-1, 6-1; Pearson bt J Way, 6-2, 6-2.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Portsmouth 100 (Irish 35, Sloss 28, Cunningham 14), Mitre Livingston 93 (Way 27, Fleming 19, Young 17, Collier 12); Hemel and Watford Royals 96 (Thomas 27, Smith 24), Bracknell Pirates 103 (Gordon 25, Kellytrew 22); Leicester Riders 119 (Vaughan 42, Young 31), Bolton and Bury Giants 93 (Woods 25, Crosby 24).

KORAC CUP: Quarter-finals, fifth series: Red Star Belgrade (Yug) 99, PAOK Salonika (Gr) 88; Real Madrid (Sp) 85, Elitzur Netanya (Isr) 100; Racing Club Paris (Fr) 79, Cibona Zagreb (Yug), 84; Villeurbanne (Fr) 109, Estudiantes Madrid (Sp) 67; Jugoplastika Split (Yug) 83, Arsenal Caneu (It) 77. Corrected result: Caserta (It) 119, Manchester United (GB) 120 (aet; 106-106 after normal time).

CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Men: Saturn Cologne (WG) 96, Partizan Belgrade (Yug) 101. Women: Semi-finals, fifth series: Dynamo Novosibirsk (USSR) 85, Primigi Vincenza (It) 83.

RONCHETTI CUP: Quarter-finals, fifth series: Spartak Leningrad (USSR) 89, Unicar Cesena (It) 68; Racing Club Paris (Fr) 84, Deborah Milan (It) 91; Stica Delta-Jenka (Yug) 78, Ula Szachten Polski (Pol) 58.

UNITED STATES: National Association (NBA): Boston Celtics 143, Detroit Pistons 105; Philadelphia 76ers 104, New Jersey Nets 95; Dallas Mavericks 110, Indiana Pacers 109; Atlanta Hawks 120, San Antonio Spurs 110; Phoenix Suns 117, Houston Rockets 105; Utah Jazz 116, Portland Trail Blazers 104; Los Angeles Clippers 110, Los Angeles Lakers 109 (in OT); Seattle Supersonics 144, Golden State Warriors 116.

ICE HOCKEY

NORTH AMERICA: National League (NHL): Montreal Canadiens 5, Boston Bruins 4; Detroit Red Wings 7, New York Rangers 4; Quebec Nordiques 5, New Jersey Devils 3; Chicago Black Hawks 2, Hartford Whalers 1 (in OT); Toronto Maple Leafs 3, Minnesota North Stars 3; Edmonton Oilers 5, Calgary Flames 3; Washington Capitals 8, Los Angeles Kings 3; Vancouver Canucks 8, Winnipeg Jets 2.

BOWLS

NORTH WALSHAM: CIS Insurance International mixed pairs tournament: Quarter-finals: S Franklin (Wisbech) and R Cutts (Ipswich) bt M Steele (Egham) and W Richards (Cambridge Park, Twickenham), 2-7, 7-3, 7-0. Semi-finals: N Shaw (Teeside) and A Allcock (Cotswold) bt W Line and P Line (Alverley, Southampton), 1-7, 7-4, 7-4; Franklin and Cutts bt C Webb and D Ward (North Walsham), 7-0, 8-3.

COATBRIDGE: Coral Bingo Scottish indoor players' association championships: Semi-finals: J Wallace (Prestwick) bt J Muir (Irvine), 7-4, 7-3; N McGhee (Auchinleck) bt F Muirhead (Bellshill), 8-7, 7-1, 7-4. Final: McGhee bt Wallace, 7-1, 7-2.

GOLF

PRETORIA: Sunshine circuit tournament: Second-round leaders (S African unless stated): 130: H Buhrmann (US), 65, 65. 131: D Durnian (GB), 65, 66; I Young (GB), 67, 64. 132: P Harman (US), 65, 67; A Johnstone, 66, 66. 134: N Henke (US), 64, 70. 138: S Hobday, 69, 69; J Hawkes, 71, 65; H Baiocchi, 69, 69; F Allem, 70, 68; M James (GB), 69, 69; A Roestoff, 66, 70.

DARTS

FRIMLEY GREEN: Embassy World Professional Championship: Second round: P Reynolds (Eng) bt C Lazarenko (Eng), 3-2; E Bristow (Eng) bt R Gardner (Eng), 3-0.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Newbridge 16, Neath 13; Maesteg 24, Cross Keys 31; Swansea 37, Newport 6; A

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Cup sponsorship rejected over naming wrangle

By Clive White

The FA Cup is not for sale—at any price. The Football Association has turned its back on the biggest sponsorship deal ever offered to a sport because it would not agree to the competition being renamed after the sponsor.

Elders-IXL, the Australian conglomerate, was believed, initially, to have made an offer of £20 million over four and a half years for the sponsorship, primarily of the FA Cup, which it wished to rename the Foster's Lager Cup. But the FA, refusing to name the proposed sponsor, announced yesterday that it had terminated discussions with a major company.

Ted Croker, the FA Secretary said: "We couldn't come to agreement. We were not prepared to change the name of the FA Cup."

And he added: "It is extremely unlikely that the FA Cup will be sponsored. It is something special to the sporting calendar like Wimbledon and the Open golf championship and that is the way it will stay. It should be noted that we have never actively sought sponsorship for it."

While the FA and Courage Breweries, an English subsidiary of Elders-IXL, refused to admit publicly that Elders-IXL had been involved in discussions, it has been common knowledge since mid November that the company had been holding talks with the FA about a sponsorship deal which embraced the FA Cup, the Charity Shield, the FA coaching scheme, the school of excellence and the Rous Cup.

The proposed association with the brewery prompted widespread criticism since alcohol is considered to be one of the root causes of England's hooligan problem among spectators.

Mr Croker said he could not say whether public outcry was the chief reason why the FA executive committee voted against continuing discussions though he admitted that it may have influenced its decision.

He said: "They didn't vote on any individual issue. There were several factors involved including the incorporation of a name into the title. They had to consider very carefully whether the financial rewards justified the sort of demands being made. They were not happy with the terms and conditions and negotiations broke down simply because we were not thinking along the same lines."

It has been alleged that because of the crash on the Australian stock market, Elders-IXL had reduced its offer to £12 million over three years.

Croker said one of the problems with sponsoring the FA Cup is that nearly all clubs big or small, have commitments to display sponsors' names and this could conflict with benefits that an FA Cup sponsor would want.

Although the FA Cup seems unlikely to be sponsored in the season of its 125th anniversary, the FA is still eager to find sponsors for its other interests. General Motors look certain to continue its sponsorship of the school of excellence and the FA is in advanced negotiations with another company to sponsor the Charity Shield

Liverpool sweeten Italy with £1m Candy deal

By Ian Ross

Liverpool yesterday announced a £1 million sponsorship deal with the Italian company, Candy. The agreement, which will run for a minimum of three years, will take effect from the start of next season and replaces that with present sponsors, Crown Paints, who have been associated with the club for the past six years but decided to pull out when their agreement expires in May.

Candy and Liverpool regard their agreement as another piece of important international bridge-building following the 1985 Heysel Stadium tragedy when 39 people, mostly Italian, lost their lives in rioting which preceded the European Cup final between Liverpool and Juventus.

The Candy group in the United Kingdom employs 600 people, mostly at their factory at Bromborough on Merseyside.

"It is particularly pleasing that this sponsorship deal offers us all the opportunity to strengthen further links between Merseyside and Italy," John Smith, the Liverpool chairman announcing the deal, said.

"Candy's parent company is based in Italy where Liverpool football club already enjoys a very warm relationship with Juventus football club."

David Ost, Candy's managing director, said: "We are aligning ourselves with the best in football, a club with an enormous reputation, and a byword for integrity in sport. We are pleased to be able to make the most of the chance to bring Merseyside and Italy closer together."



Martin Bell (pictured above), seemed to have answered all Britain's skiing dreams yesterday when he recorded the fastest training run for Saturday's World Cup downhill race in Bad Kleinkirchheim, in Austria. Among those trailing Bell, who clocked 1min 55.35sec, was Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen, the World Cup holder, who finished tenth fastest, almost two seconds behind the Briton. Peter Müller, the Swiss world champion, was also well down the order, finishing fifth with a time of 1:56.95. Bell's secret? He missed a gate

Fitness doubts resolved

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

The English and Scottish teams resolved all fitness doubts yesterday before flying to, respectively, Paris and Dublin for the start of the five nations' rugby union championship tomorrow, a championship which will attract even greater attention this season coming as it does in the aftermath of last year's successful World Cup.

France, runners-up to New Zealand in Auckland in June, reported no further injuries in training yesterday, while England, their opponents, spent the morning at the Metropolitan Police ground at Imber Court. Dean Richards, the Leicester No. 8, worked happily with his colleagues and is expected to take his place in the side tomorrow.

Richards also put in an intensive scrummage session on Wednesday night at the Stoop Memorial ground with the other England forwards. They worked against a machine and the B XI pack who also play in Paris tomorrow and the muddy surface created testing conditions for Richard's ankle injury.

Yesterday's workout was on a playing surface much closer to that at the Parc des Princes, the draining at Imber Court providing good firm going despite the recent rain.

Today both teams will have light training near their hotels in Versailles before visiting the match stadium where seven of the senior side will be playing for the first time.

"The interesting thing will be to see how much of the training sticks in the match environment," Roger Uttley, England's assistant coach, said.

Scotland, who play Ireland at Lansdowne Road tomorrow, trained at Murrayfield before flying out and gave a searching fitness test to David Sole, who pulled a leg muscle on Sunday. The Edinburgh Academicals prop came through successfully

More rugby, page 32

Obstacles for Moynihan's harmful drugs initiative

By John Goodbody

Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport, faces difficulty in persuading the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs that it should be illegal for people to possess anabolic steroids without a medical prescription.

I understand that the Council, which is studying the problem, is not yet convinced that hormone drugs, which are used in many sports to build muscle weight and recover from intensive exercise, should be included in the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, which covers those substances that can have harmful effects sufficient to constitute a social problem.

The Advisory Council, who in September was asked by Douglas Hogg, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Home Office, to examine the problem, has already had discussions with Government officials. It is expected to give its decision in May to the inter-ministerial working party, which is reviewing the law on all forms of drugs.

Anabolic steroids currently come under the Medicines Act 1968, which only makes it an offence to sell the drugs. As a series of articles in *The Times* has shown, there is widespread selling and importing of these drugs in Britain.

Despite dedicated work by a small group of inspectors from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, there are immense obstacles in the way of obtaining convictions. A change in the law would make things much easier.

The tranquillizers, Librium and Valium, were added to the Misuse of Drugs Act last year, largely because they can alter the state of an individual's mind and therefore can be a matter of social concern. People, who want hormone drugs similarly included, argue that there is considerable anecdotal evidence that anabolic steroids do induce aggression in individuals.

Menzies Campbell, the Liberal spokesman on sport and former international sprinter, will next week put forward a second reading of his Private Member's Bill to make it a criminal offence to possess these drugs without a medical prescription.

However, unless the Government makes time for this Bill it is unlikely to reach a vote in the House of Commons. But the Government is still waiting on the final decision of the Advisory Council and therefore looks unlikely to give him its support.

One possible compromise may be to put hormone drugs in a similar category to codeine, in which the possession without a prescription is not illegal but the large importation of these drugs is an offence, even if the individual claims that they are for personal use. This would help stop the traffic in these drugs.

Olympic call for King's

The Drug Control Centre at King's College, London University, has been asked to help the organizers of the winter Olympics with the drug testing for the Games, which begin in Calgary on February 13 (John Goodbody writes).

The unusual request follows some political in-fighting between the laboratories in Calgary and Montreal.

Dr Bruce Challis, the chief medical officer in Calgary, said that the Games organizers believe officials from the Montreal laboratory, accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for the 1976 summer Games, would take control of testing, leaving the Calgary laboratory with little credibility after the Games.

The IOC has ruled that officials from an established testing centre assist new laboratories created for major Games.

Challis said: "We want some experienced people. But we want them to be involved as a support group. We do want to give the impression that this laboratory is dependent for its credibility on one particular group."

However, the fact that King's College has been asked ahead of the other 17 IOC-accredited laboratories throughout the world demonstrates how highly regarded the British centre is.

Harrison outlines campaign

By Ian Stafford

Steve Harrison, the former player and coach at Watford, rolled up his sleeves yesterday to start, in earnest, the club's revival under his management.

Known as 'Harry' in his playing days at Vicarage Road, Harrison insists he will now be called 'boss' by the same players he previously worked with as he lays down new laws in an attempt to lift Watford off the bottom of the first division. He will start by asking them to forget the the last disastrous seven months under Dave Bassett.

"I have told the players we cannot afford to look back over the last seven months," Harrison, who has agreed a three and a half year contract, said. "Any team at the foot of the table are down. The players are lacking confidence and are wounded and my main aim is to restore some confidence. Once that returns we will have a good team again.

"It is a new chapter now and we are all starting afresh. The players will be treated in the same way and will be assessed individually and fairly."

One immediate change likely to be seen from Saturday is an improved standard of behaviour on the field, an issue that Harrison takes seriously at a club with one of the worst disciplinary records in the first division.



Harrison: starting afresh

"I want to see disciplined performances not only in how we play but in the way we conduct ourselves towards referees and linesmen. The record has been poor and I will introduce a new code where players who get booked for dissent will be fined."

The club's stability, an issue that Harrison needed assurances about before he took up his post, is still uncertain. Elton John, Watford's chairman, insists he will still sell his shares but remain on the board of directors. Robert Maxwell's interest in buying the club will be discussed at a special Football League meeting next week which Harrison will view with particular concern.

"It is vital that a new owner is established as quickly as possible. We are all waiting to find out what will happen, but I have been guaranteed that money is available to strengthen the squad if I feel it necessary to do so," Harrison added.

When Graham Taylor left Watford for Aston Villa in the summer, Harrison, after failing even to be granted an interview for the vacant post, followed Taylor to Birmingham. He believes he was ready to do the job seven months ago but his extra time under Taylor's guidance will only serve to help him over the next difficult few months.

Unsettled players such as Tony Coton and Kenny Jackett seem likely now to stay at Vicarage Road, but Kevin Dillon, of Portsmouth, will not be joining them.

For his first taste of League football Harrison has to take his struggling team to in-form Wimbledon, which might indicate to him how difficult his job will be. "I am no miracle worker but I have good people to help me throughout the club," he added. "Even so, I am not too proud a person to phone Graham Taylor or Dave Bassett and ask them for advice."

Suspensions for players in brawl

Three of the four players who took part in the brawl at the Warrington v Wigan match on New Year's Day were suspended yesterday at the disciplinary committee meeting in Leeds (Keith Macklin writes). However, a fourth player sent off in the match, Adrian Shelford, Wigan's New Zealand forward, received a finding that sending-off was sufficient punishment.

Andy Goodway, the Wigan forward who allegedly struck the Warrington centre, Paul Cullen, off the ball, received a four-match suspension. Cullen himself, who chased after Goodway to exact retribution, was suspended for two matches and Tony Humphries, the Warrington forward, was suspended for two matches.

No action was taken against Peter Souto, the St Helens forward who was alleged by Wigan to have stamped on their forward, Ian Potter, resulting in a cut eye needing four stitches, despite Wigan's submission of a video tape allegedly showing the incident.

Ellery Hanley, the Wigan captain, had a sin-bin offence deleted from his record.

Swindon in running for course

By Phil McLennan

The Jockey Club confirmed yesterday that it is giving serious consideration to plans for an £83 million racecourse complex near Swindon. If the scheme is approved by Portman Square and local planners, it would be the first new course in Britain since Chepstow was built in 1926.

Jonathan Weatherby, the director of development and planning at the Jockey Club, said: "We welcome people coming forward with proposals for a new racecourse, especially one with excellent facilities.

"We hope to get back to Marlborough Leisure Park Limited in about two weeks but there are many problems to be ironed out."

Not least of these is the company's request for 500 races a year at the track—the equivalent of more than 80 racing days. Of Britain's 59 courses, Ayr staged most fixtures last year with 31 racing days and 191 races.

The proposed site, close to the village of Chiseldon and junction 15 of the M4, is ideally situated for the principal Berkshire and Wiltshire training centres.

Jaguar's challenge for honours on two fronts

By John Blunsden

Details of the most ambitious racing programme undertaken by a British car manufacturer were announced in London yesterday by Sir John Egan, chairman and chief executive of Jaguar Cars.

The company will be fielding separate teams this season when it contests both the world sports prototype championship and the American IMSA championship, the foremost competition for GT and sports cars across the Atlantic.

The dual programme involves 25 races in 10 countries on four continents. Both teams will be managed by Tom Walkinshaw's TWR Racing, but they will be independently sponsored. The world championship team will again run in the Silk Cut colours while Castrol will be backing the IMSA cars. Both will run on Dunlop tyres.

Jaguar's latest competition car, the XJR-9, which has been developed from the 1987 championship-winning XJR-8, will run with a 7-litre version of the V12 engine in world championship races, and with a 6-litre derivative, the maximum size allowed for the IMSA events.

The strong driver line-up includes Martin Brundle, Johnny Dumfries and John Watson

The Brazilian, Raul Boesel, winner of the 1987 championship with Jaguar, will concentrate on the American series this year, but Brundle, who drove in grands prix last season for Zakspeed, will contest both series for Jaguar.

Subba Row puzzled

Raman Subba Row, the chairman of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), was "mystified" yesterday by reports from Pakistan that the umpire, Shakoor Rana—who was involved in the public quarrel with Mike Gatting, the England captain, in the second Test at Faisalabad—denied writing a letter of apology to Gatting in return for receiving Gatting's earlier apology (Ian Stafford writes).

"I most certainly saw the letter," Subba Row said. "I cannot vouch that Shakoor wrote it himself, but I received it in Karachi just hours before I flew back to England. As far as I know the letter is now in Mike Gatting's possession."

Vatanen keeps lead despite desert detour

Tessalit, Mali (AFP) — Ari Vatanen, of Finland, at the wheel of a Peugeot 405, stayed in overall command of the Paris to Dakar rally, despite losing his way on yesterday's 279-mile fourteenth stage from Kidal.

Vatanen's navigational problems put him third on the stage behind an amateur competitor, Jerome Riviere, of France, driving a Toyota, and a fellow Finn, Juha Kankkunen, in another works Pengeot.

Eddy Orioli, of Italy, on a Honda, won the motor cycle division's stage, and so snatched the overall lead for motor cycles from his compatriot, Franco Picco, riding a Yamaha.

Orioli was more than an hour ahead of his adversaries, with the Frenchmen, Thierry Charbonnier and Jean-Claude Olivier, finishing second and third.

SPORT IN BRIEF

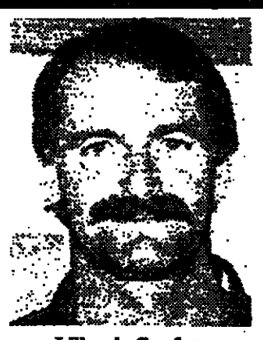
Lillee to return

Hobart (Reuter) — Dennis Lillee will make a Sheffield Shield cricket comeback for Tasmania against South Australia, starting today. Australia's former Test wicket record-holder, aged 38, said the challenge of helping a struggling state side, rather than money, was the main reason for his return to first class cricket after three seasons.

Lillee has been in outstanding form for Scarborough, the Perth club side, taking 36 wickets at an average of about 12. He took 355 wickets in 70 Tests for Australia.

Back in saddle

Greg Lemond, the American cyclist sidelined for the whole of 1987 by injuries sustained in a hunting accident, said his racing comeback will take place in Spain, in the Ruta del Sol from February 2 to 7.



Lillee: in fine form

Jansher back

Jansher Khan, the world squash champion, who missed the first grand prix tournament of the year in Jersey because of illness, is expected to be back for the next two, in France and Belgium. The 18-year-old Pakistani is top seed for both the £27,500 Blois International from January 20 to 24, and the £22,000 Belgium Trophy in Antwerp the following week.

Last respects

A requiem mass and service of thanksgiving for the life and career of Henry Cotton will be held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, W1 on Wednesday, March 16 at 10.30 a.m. Cotton, three times winner of the Open golf Championship, died at the age of 80 last month.

Roden leads

Paul Roden, the northern champion, leads an England team competing in an international cross-country race in Le Mans, France, on Sunday.

Ford signs

Mike Ford, Oldham Rugby League club's £65,000 scrum half capture from Leigh, has signed a contract tying him to his club until 1991.

Adding up

Hampshire County Cricket Club have signed a £100,000 three-year sponsorship deal

END COLUMN

The long wait for passport to fame

By Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent

It would be difficult to meet as nice a pair of athletes as Barrington Williams and Ernie Obeng if you ran for a hundred years, let alone a hundred miles.

They, as it happens, run a pretty fast 100 metres, as their results over 60 metres indoors last Saturday prove. Williams won the first indoor sprint of the season from Obeng, with Daley Thompson, the Olympic decathlon champion and himself no mean sprinter, somewhere behind them.

For good measure, Williams also won the long jump. And performances like these would put Williams and Obeng well in line for representing Britain at the European indoor championships in Budapest in early March.

That is, if it were not for the little problem of Williams's and Obeng's British passports, or rather lack of British passports.

These two fine athletes have between them lived in Britain for almost 40 years. They have not been trying to get a British passport for all of that time, only for the last year in the case of Williams and the past three years in the case of Obeng.

A naive person might think that over 20 years' residence in the case of Williams, and more than a decade by Obeng, would be sufficient qualification for one of the last of those reassuring hardback passports before the European Community paperback is imposed on us all.

But no; and "going through the normal channels" seems to be taking an inordinately long time, especially since both have had to start all over again after several months and first apply for British citizenship.

It is sincerely to be hoped that their being black — Williams and Obeng are respectively Jamaican and Ghanaian by birth — has nothing to do with this. But you will not have to be reminded that poor little rich (and white) South African girl, Zola Budd, had not been in Britain for more than 10 days in her life before a British passport was bestowed upon her by the Home Office.



Obeng: three-year delay

Miss Budd cannot be blamed for having an eye to the main chance; but she is still unwilling to make the sort of comment on the ill-conceived political situation in her native country that many feel she owes to right-thinking people in Britain.

And she also seems to spend an inordinate amount of time in the country of her birth, a circumstance which some New Zealand citizens seem unwilling to let pass.

Anti-apartheid groups in New Zealand have announced that if Miss Budd goes to the world cross-country championships in Auckland on March 26, as seems eminently likely, there will be trouble.

It must be emphasized that neither Williams nor Obeng is kicking up any fuss about the unconscionable time that these few strokes of a pen are taking. Williams said this week: "I thought it would be a formality but I'm not complaining. I'm only competing for a bit of fun, I'm enjoying myself."

Obeng's reaction was similar. But then the pair of them belong to a not-so-distant ethic where love of competition came before the lust for money, which characterizes much of athletics nowadays.

Neither of them is ever going to be paid £90,000 for a competition, as Miss Budd was in 1985, doubtless earning a similar sum for the athletics authorities in the process.

There have been several wobbles recently on the road to rationalization in British athletics. It would be nice to think that the touch of sanity that Williams and Obeng have brought to recent athletics proceedings could be reciprocated in an administrative equivalent of the time it would take them to run 60 metres for Britain.